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Latin America

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INFORMATION SECRETARIAT REPORTS SUSPENSION OF CEREMONIES

PY061419 La Paz Radio Panamericana Network in Spanish 1410 GMT 6 Aug 79 PY

[Text] This is (Severo Cruz) from the congressional press room reporting that the ceremonies planned for today have been suspended. This is the communique issued by the Information Secretariat:

"As the people are aware, the honorable Congress has declared itself in permanent session and has so far been unable to elect the constitutional president and vice president of the nation. In view of this, the Presidential Information Secretariat informs the people in general that the ceremonies scheduled for today, 6 August, have been suspended."

This is all, dear listeners.

CONGRESS FAILS TO ELECT PRESIDENT, CONTINUES EFFORTS

Military Rule To Continue Unless Congress Acts

PY031707 Paris AFP in Spanish 1638 GMT 3 Aug 79 PY

[Text] La Paz, 3 Aug (AFP)--It was officially reported here today that the military will continue to govern Bolivia, unless the Congress elects the president of the republic no later than 5 August. Gen Victor Castillo, chairman of the armed forces joint chiefs of staff, stated here today that "unfortunately we will have to remain in the government, unless the Congress elects the future constitutional president in accordance with our laws, although there are several alternatives to our remaining in power." Castillo concluded: "We expect, however, that the Congress will hold the expected election according to the rules of the Constitution."

Political Maneuvering Continues

PY031823 Paris AFP in Spanish 1804 GMT 3 Aug 79 PY

[By special AFP correspondent Alberto Brun]

[Text] La Paz, 3 Aug (AFP)--Bolivia may wake up on Monday without an elected president, as the Constitution demands, if it is impossible to achieve a political compromise which will lead to a sufficient majority so that one of the candidates can occupy the presidency.

This fear became more critical in political circles Wednesday night when the difficulties which are blocking an agreement between the Nationalist Revolutionary Movement of Victor Paz Estenssoro and the Nationalist Democratic Alliance of former chief of state Hugo Banzer became evident. Until now the political analysts believed it was a fact that Paz Estenssoro and Banzer had signed a secret agreement which would guarantee the MNR leader half the votes plus one among the grand electors constituted by Congress. In the first place it seems that Paz Estenssoro did not even succeed in obtaining consensus within his party to form an alliance with Banzer. Several of his allies declared themselves to be against that agreement. Casiano Amurrio, a peasant deputy of the Leninist Communist Party [Peking line], publicly stated that position, declaring in a speech to the assembly that his party will never accept an "electoral pact with those responsible for the murder of thousands of peasants and workers during Banzer's dictatorship."

On the other hand, the ADN abandoned the sessions of the Chamber of Deputies after having demanded the forming of a "national agreement" government with the participation of the armed forces. The ADN departure saved the sessions of the assembly at the last moment, because the UDP also prepared to abandon the chamber, which would have left it without a quorum. The UDP, according to party sources, is now planning to begin a hunger strike in the vicinity of the chamber.

According to political circles, the Chamber of Deputies seemed to be sinking deeper and deeper into the quagmire, either voluntarily or not, in seeking a formula which could insure the election of a president next Monday. The confusion during the sessions of the chamber has been worsened in part by the presence in the galleries of spectators, known as colegislators in Bolivia, who with their shouts, whistling, songs or silence, either hinder or allow the development of the debates. The general impression is that General Banzer has become, with his parliamentary group, a decisive factor without which the country will never have a president.

Uruguay has abandoned its intention of attending the transfer of power and the Venezuelan president, Luis Herrera Campins, expressed his best wishes that everything will find a solution and that he can make his trip to La Paz. Only Rosalynn Carter, wife of the U.S. President, seems to be keeping her optimism while the FBI [as received] is beginning to occupy strategic positions to insure her protection when she travels to Bolivia for the transfer of power.

The tension which was being experienced in Bolivia today became heightened during the last few hours after the armed forces issued their latest ultimatum. The military will continue to govern Bolivia if the Congress does not elect a president before Monday, warned Gen Victor Castillo, joint chief of staff of the armed forces.

Army Commander Rejects Rumors of Intervention

PY040229 La Paz Radio Panamericana Network in Spanish 0000 GMT 4 Aug 79 PY

[Excerpts] The commander of the army, Gen Ramon Azero, said that if the Congress does not elect a president and vice president, the government of the military junta of the armed forces will make a decision at the appropriate time, and not now. He said repeatedly, however, that there is a consensus that the armed forces should step out of the political problem. The army commander met with reporters this afternoon to make some remarks. He said that calmness is what should prevail at this time. He said that if there is any situation which is not compatible with the goal of constitutionalization toward which the military junta and the armed forces are working, a profound evaluation of it will be made. When reporters asked him if there could be an intervention by the armed forces at any given time, General Azero said:

[Begin Azero recording] This, of course, has been discarded. He again referred to the communique of the armed forces aimed at maintaining tranquility and preventing violence, which has created some concern. In view of rumors from many sources regarding a coup, the army commander said:

[Begin Azero recording] I believe this is a product of psychosis. We do not know where it comes from or what its objectives are. There is great calmness in the armed forces. There is perfect unity, and consensus on what is being done, and our great wish is to have a normal process to really institutionalize the country. [end recording]

General Azero believes that the voting to elect a president and vice president will be carried out tomorrow. This opinion was expressed with due regard for the ideological plurality of the Bolivian Congress. He indicated that the armed forces will share and [word indistinct] a government of national agreement.

CHAMBER LACKS QUORUM, SUSPENDS MEETING

FY040129 La Paz Radio Panamericana Network in Spanish 0000 GMT 4 Aug 79 FY

[Text] In view of the fact that the Chamber of Deputies was not able to assemble a quorum, its meeting was suspended until tomorrow at 1000.

Confusion and uncertainty were the general mood in the various sectors of Congress. Deputies and senators, as well as reporters and other personages, are making all kinds of analyses and interpretations to find a solution to the stagnant situation in the organizational process of the Chamber of Deputies. The meeting was called for 1100 today, but because of the absence of one deputy it had to be suspended. There were 58 deputies in the chamber, but 59 are the minimum number required to open a meeting.

The absence of deputies was noticeable among the Popular and Democratic Unity, UDP and the Nationalist Democratic Alliance, ADN All the deputies of the National Revolutionary Movement alliance were present.

In the afternoon, discussions among the various sectors in the Congress were being conducted in loud voices. Some pessimists stated that it would be impossible to reach agreements to organize the Chamber of Deputies. [Words Indistinct] Optimistic, some deputies stated the possibility of agreement to find a solution to the standstill in the chamber. There is, however, a general tendency to act with responsibility and in accordance with the mandate of the Bolivian people to continue with the interrupted preparatory sessions of the Chamber of Deputies and to immediately call the Congress for the election of the president and vice president of the nation. It is expected that in a few more hours, the Chamber of Deputies will be able to meet without any interruptions.

BANZER On Political Agreement, Possible Coup

FY040312 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 0120 GMT 4 Aug 79 FY

[Text] La Paz, 3 Aug (LATIN)--Gen Hugo Banzer Suarez, Presidential candidate of the rightist Nationalist Democratic Alliance [ADN], called for a search for political agreement in view of the threat of an imminent coup.

The former president, third in the general elections held on 1 July, called on his adversaries--the leftist Hernan Siles Zuazo and the centrist Victor Paz Estenssoro--to reach an agreement, and within a matter of hours. Banzer said at a press conference that there is an urgent need to reach agreement on the formation of a government of national consensus in order to prevent a coup, which we can see is near. He added that his proposal constitutes the only possibility for saving the democratic process, which he said began under his government in November 1977.

The former president, overthrown in July 1978, said that various emmisaries of the ADN today searched for contacts with the Democratic and Popular Unity [UDP] and the Nationalist Revolutionary Movement (MNR), the two forces engaged in an intense struggle for control of the future democratic government. "We do not want to see bloodshed in the Bolivian family," Banzer said in reference to the threat of a coup, in which his political front is not involved. He said; "I have been labeled a supporter of a coup ever since I left the government. The people know that this is not true. On the contrary, I have been one of the staunch defenders of this process, and this is proven by the call I am making to my political rivals today."

He reiterated that the purpose of his proposal is to achieve the formation of a quadrapartite government with the participation of the three major fronts and the armed forces. He warned, however, that in case his proposal does not meet with success, the ADN will maintain total independence and not form any alliance with any political force. The warning made by the candidate is an endorsement of the attitude taken yesterday by his 22 representatives in the National Congress, who left the meetings before the election for president in order not to show support for the shameful electoral fraud.

The Banzer bloc is considered a determining factor in the difficult legislative task of electing a president of the nation after Bolivian voters left the candidates without an absolute majority on the 1 July elections. Regarding the possibility that none of the three presidential candidates reaches agreement on the appointment of a future chief of state, Banzer Suarez said that another citizen could be elected as a solution to this crisis. Banzer said in conclusion: "I do not know when the coup might take place because I am not involved in it, but I can see it coming."

MNR, UDP Turn Down Banzer Proposal

PY041246 La Paz Radio Panamericana Network in Spanish 1130 GMT 4 Aug 79 PY

[Text] The National Revolutionary Movement [MNR] Alliance cannot make any type of pact with the Nationalist Democratic Alliance [ADN], as long as that group wants to govern together with the armed forces. This was affirmed by MNR leader Oscar Zamora, who stated that democracy is not meant to be (?guided) by the military. We have just heard the army commander say that the armed forces (?promise) to return to their barracks in order to perform their specific functions.

Zamora clearly stated: I cannot see much success for this appeal in view of the fact that the congressional representatives of the Democratic and Popular Unity [UDP] are those who are causing uncertainty. At the hour of truth, they will be directly responsible if the process the country is experiencing is frustrated and returns again to dictatorship.

In addition, according to statement made by political leader Antonio Aranibar, the UDP rejected General Banzer's invitation during a joint meeting, since the UDP believes that his political group is not the one (?called for) to originate an agreement. He further explained that Siles Zuazo had not (?received) any messenger last night carrying any invitation from the ADN leader.

Chief of Staff Deplores Political 'Aggression'

PY041330 La Paz Radio Panamericana Network in Spanish 1130 GMT 4 Aug 79 PY

[Text] The latest events which have occurred in the political field, unleashed by members of opposing fronts and coalitions, were deplored by Gen Victor Castillo Suarez, chief of the armed forces. The high-ranking officer maintained that there is no reason the Bolivian people should be exposed to that type of aggression by political sectors. Expressing his personal opinion, he condemned the events which give a poor image of these Bolivian citizens who do not wish to respect the law.

He then maintained that the armed forces of the nation depend on the sovereign will of the members of the Congress. The chief of staff added that if a final [words indistinct] is not achieved, the congressmen have the possibility of carrying a second and even a third round of balloting, according to the law, until they elect the constitutional president and vice president.

He then said that the behavior of the elected national representatives who are in the legislative palace (? cause) consternation and sadness. He continued, however. Those facts are limited only to some of the parliamentarians who are not up to the norms of ethics, courtesy and respect for fellow citizens. In order to prevent situations which may lead to anarchical events, the armed forces must necessarily assume the role which is assigned to them (? to prevent) [words indistinct]

Right now the military junta government is organizing the ceremonies which are to take place on 6 August, he stated in conclusion.

Senate President Guevara Arze Fears Coup

PY041432 Sucre Radio La Plata in Spanish 1350 GMT 4 Aug 79 PY

[Relay from La Paz--Intercepted in Progress]

[Text] Rumors have multiplied, and there is even mention of a new military coup. This rumor became stronger when it was learned that the high command of the Bolivian armed forces gathered in a secret conference. While this meeting was going on, on Friday afternoon, the new Senate president, Walter Guevara Arze [National Revolutionary Movement--MNR], who on it said will become president because of the indecision among the legislators, spoke about a new military solution. He said:

[Begin recording] If fear that the next step will not be taken by the politicians or in the field of politics, I fear that the next step will be taken by the military in the military field. [sentence indistinct] The only other alternative seems to be a military coup which will again be the end of the democratic process. [end recording]

Walter Guevara Arze, a prominent Bolivian politician, was elected Senate president on Thursday. His succession to the presidency was [words indistinct] by several politicians, among whom was the Senate vice president and deputy chief of one of the main Bolivian parties, the priest Leonidas Sanchez Arana, Senator for Potosi, who said:

[Begin recording] In case the honorable National Congress should not appoint Siles Zuazo or Paz Estenssoro as president in the first, second, or third round of balloting, the president of the Congress would assume power. The Congress would then call new elections within 90 days. [end recording]

Chamber of Deputies President Selected

PY041632 Sucre Radio La Plata in Spanish 1620 GMT 4 Aug 79 PY

[Text] According to a last-minute report from La Paz, Lidia Gueiler Tejada, [National Revolutionary Movement--La Paz] has just been elected president of deputies. The chamber will not proceed to elect its vice president.

UDP Deputies Return, Demand Paz Estenssoro's Withdrawal

FY041756 Paris AFP in Spanish 1651 GMT 4 Aug 79 FY

[Text] La Paz, 4 Aug (AFP)--The Democratic and Popular Unity [UDP] decided this morning to return to the Chamber of Deputies, thus permitting a quorum, but with the intention of demanding that Victor Paz Estenssoro, presidential candidate for the National Revolutionary Movement, (MNR), renounce his candidacy, according to an official UDP report.

Guillermo Capobianco of the Orthodox Communist Party; Ruben Sanchez of the National Liberation Alliance [ALIN]; and Alcides Alvarado of the National Revolutionary Movement of the Left [MNRI], all of whom belong to the UDP front, explained on behalf of the front that they are returning to the chamber in order to refute the MNR slander which accuses them of seeking the rupture of the democratic process.

We will rejoin the session to insist that power comes from the people who expressed their wishes at the ballot boxes and to show that Paz Estenssoro's assertion that he controls the Congress is false, because so far he has not been able to make it function or obtain any result whatsoever. They concluded: We will ask him to renounce the presidency of the republic and to respect the popular will expressed on 1 July in favor of Hernan Siles Zuazo.

The situation seems to be on a more even keel after the return of the UDP group, because the election of Mrs Lidia Gueiler as president of the chamber was accomplished. She belongs to the Revolutionary Party of the Left [PRI], a group allied to the MNR.

Chamber Completes Election of Officers

FY041930 Paris AFP in Spanish 1914 GMT 4 Aug 79 FY

[Text] La Paz, 4 Aug (AFP)--The Chamber of Deputies today was finally able to attain its constitutional makeup with the election of its executive board after a quorum was obtained with the attendance of deputies of the Democratic and Popular Unity [UDP], even though they cast blank votes.

Furthermore, Gen Hugo Banzer's Nationalist Democratic Alliance announced this afternoon that it will rejoin the congressional sessions, thus adding greater suspense about the designation of Hernan Siles Zuazo or Victor Paz Estenssoro as president of Bolivia.

Unexpectedly, the Popular Alliance for National Integration [APIN] abandoned its alliance with the Bolivian Socialist Falange [rightist] and joined Victor Paz Estenssoro's National Revolutionary Movement [MNR], which produced the first political switch in the Bolivian Congress.

Lidia Gueiler, an old political fighter linked with the MNR and considered the founder of the feminist movement of the "barzolas," was elected president of the chamber as member of the Revolutionary Front of the Left [member group of the MNR alliance.] Jose Zegarra of the APIN and Angel Gemio of the MNR were appointed first and second vice presidents.

With this election the constitutionalization of the chamber emerged from its deadlock and it can now gather in session with the Senate to elect the president of the republic. Observers believe that this stage will be rather difficult and that it may end up in another dead end which might delay the presidential election beyond Monday.

Congress Convenes To Elect President

FY042015 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 2006 GMT 4 Aug 79 FY

[Text] La Paz, 4 Aug (LATIN)--The Bolivian National Congress was summoned today at 1700 local time [2100 GMT] to a permanent session, from which should result the election of the new president of the republic. The decision was made after the Chamber of Deputies completed the election of its Executive Board.

Session To Elect President Begins

FY042242 La Paz Radio Panamericana in Spanish 2237 GMT 4 Aug 79 FY

[Text] The joint session of Congress for the election of Bolivia's new president opened at 1830 local time [2230 GMT].

Paz Estenssoro Leads After First Vote

FY050233 Paris AFP in Spanish 0225 GMT 5 Aug 79 FY

[Text] La Paz, 4 Aug (AFP)--At the end of the first round of votes in the National Congress, the results are as follows:

Victor Paz Estenssoro [MNR]	68 votes
Hernan Siles Zuazo [UDP]	46 votes
Hugo Banzer Suarez [ADN]	22 votes
Null	5 votes
Blank	3 votes

The second round of voting will be between Victor Paz Estenssoro and Hernan Siles Zuazo, while Gen Hugo Banzer was eliminated.

Second Round Won by Paz Estenssoro

FY050318 [Editorial Report FY] La Paz Domestic Service in Spanish at 0315 GMT on 5 August continues its live broadcast of the Bolivian Congress' voting for the president and vice president of Bolivia. Walter Guevara Arze, president of the Senate, announces the results of the second round of the voting for president:

Victor Paz Estenssoro [MNR]	69 votes
Hernan Siles Zuazo [UDP]	45 votes
Blank	25 votes
Null	5 votes

Third Round Voting Results

FY050357 [Editorial Report FY] La Paz Domestic Service in Spanish at 0353 GMT on 5 August continues its live coverage of the Bolivian Congress' voting for the president of the country. Walter Guevara Arze announces the results of the third round of the Congress vote:

Victor Paz Estenssoro [MNR]	67 votes
Hernan Siles Zuazo [UDP]	46 votes
Blank	25 votes
Null	6 votes

Congress Voids Fourth Round

PY050450 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 0435 GMT 5 Aug 79 PY

[Text] La Paz, 5 Aug 79 (LATIN)--The fourth round of congressional balloting for the election of new president of Bolivia was voided because 145 votes were cast, one more than the number elegible voting congressmen.

Congress Adjourns Without Electing President

PY050703 [Editorial Report PY] La Paz Domestic Service in Spanish at 0650 GMT on 5 August resumes live coverage of the proceedings of the Bolivian Congress, which has been attempting to elect a new president. The Congress had been in recess since the end of the fifth round of voting at 0505 GMT. A motion is heard being presented that the Congress adjourn until 1400 GMT. After a brief discussion of the proposal, Senate President Walter Guevara Arze announces that the Congress will adjourn until 1530 GMT.

Paz Estenssoro Spurns Banzer Deal

PY051451 Paris AFP in Spanish 1251 GMT 5 Aug 79 PY

[By Albert Brun]

[Excerpt] La Paz, 5 Aug (AFP)--It is asserted in political circles that Banzer [after he was eliminated in the first round of voting in Congress] offered his decisive support for Paz Estenssoro's candidacy in exchange for a guarantee that no administrative trial be opened against him, that a man of his confidence be appointed to the Supreme Court of Justice and that the new military chiefs be selected by him. It was said that Paz Estenssoro rejected that kind of deal during an angry talk which signified a rupture which will be difficult to mend. Other similar transactions were reported during the electoral process in the Congress. The peasant deputy Cesar Vela [UDP--Chuquisaca] stated publicly in the Chamber that he had been offered $50,000, if he would vote for a certain candidate.

Padilla Holds Secret Cabinet Meeting

PY051650 Sucre Radio La Plata in Spanish 1630 GMT 5 Aug 79 PY

[Text] At noon today, Sunday, Gen David Padilla, president of the Bolivian Government military junta, began a meeting considered to be secret at the Government Palace. Nothing has been learned yet of the subjects discussed, and it was even reported that the reporters accredited to the Government House had been urged to leave the press room, presumably due to the importance of the meeting.

Congress Reconvenes for More Balloting

PY051636 Sucre Radio La Plata in Spanish 1630 GMT 5 Aug 79 PY

[Text] We have a television set transmitting here in Radio La Plata. The joint session of the National Congress, the Chamber of Deputies and the Senate, is beginning again. The Bolivian citizenry is again experiencing truly dramatic moments. Right now a member of the Democratic and Popular Unity is speaking.

Guevara Arze Suggested as Interim President

PY051827 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 1819 GMT 5 Aug 79 PY

[Text] La Paz, 5 Aug (LATIN)--The Nationalist Democratic Alliance [ADN], headed by Gen Hugo Banzer Suarez, proposed to the National Congress the designation of the Senate President, Walter Guevara Arze, as interim president of Bolivia. Senator Guillermo Trined Lyegue issued the proposal after the failure of the seventh ballot to elect the president. Debate was begun on the proposal.

Falange Calls for New Elections

PY051916 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 1839 GMT 5 Aug 79 PY

[Text] La Paz, 5 Aug (LATIN)--The rightist Bolivian Socialist Falange [FSB] has proposed that the Congress declare itself a constituent assembly to designate a provisional president. Deputy David Anez Pedraza has also proposed in the name of his party a new election under the sponsorship of the assembly and the provisional government. The FSB motion is the second solution proposed to Congress since the election of the president became stalemated.

Popular Alliance Outlines Proposal

PY060056 La Paz Radio Panamericana Network in Spanish 0013 GMT 6 Aug 79 PY

[Text] The press has received a copy of a proposal to be submitted to the Congress by the Popular Alliance for National Integration. It states:

1. In view of motives involving national needs and in order to open up an extensive democratic process in the republic, the honorable National Congress is declared a constituent assembly with the powers and responsibilities inherent (?in our Constitution).

2. The constituent assembly will elect a transition president and vice president of the republic who will be charged with presiding over the elections the constituent assembly will call before its legal dissolution. The cabinet named by the transition government must enjoy the full confidence of the constituent assembly.

3. The new constitution must establish a (?new) political, economic, social and institutional order that must fundamentally change current structures no longer reflecting national reality. [Words indistinct] revolutionary institution must guarantee the principles of socioeconomic participation in future political (?activities) in the republic.

4. The constituent assembly will have a legal period of no more than 180 days and it must also undertake to [words indistinct] the statute of the political parties and will dictate the necessary measures it believes necessary to guarantee democratic freedom and the rights of the citizens.

Presented in the sessions room of the honorable Congress [date, signatures indistinct].

Possible Solution to Presidential Crisis

PY060208 La Paz Radio Panamericana Network in Spanish 0146 GMT 6 Aug 79 PY

[Relay from Congress by reporter (Daniel Alarcon)]

[Text] In a few more minutes the National Congress will resume its session and there is a chance for a possible solution to the current crisis [words indistinct].

The Democratic and Popular Unity bloc headed by Hernan Siles Zuazo has met in a room on the ground floor of the Congress building. The National Revolutionary Movement alliance headed by Victor Paz Estenssoro has also met. Afterward the top-ranking leaders of the two alliances met together.

News has leaked out that a possible solution could be as follows: The two fronts would support Walter Guevara Arze as a transitional president for a period of at least 6 months so that the government could call new general elections. We are also in a position to report that this proposal has the support of the two chiefs of the alliances as a patriotic undertaking. This contrasts with their former position of confrontation. We repeat that once the Congress reconvenes, the viable solution which will emerge is that of supporting Walter Guevara Arze as a transitional president. Any other information will be reported immediately.

Congress Resumes Session

PY060516 [Editorial Report PY] La Paz Radio Panamericana Network in Spanish at 0513 GMT on 6 August reports directly from the National Congress that its session has begun and that it is debating the proposal that Guevara Arze be named president.

Padilla Calls Urgent Cabinet Meeting

PY060536 Paris AFP in Spanish 0521 GMT 6 Aug 79 PY

[Text] La Paz, 6 Aug (AFP)--The military government has been holding an urgent meeting since 0210 local time [0410 GMT] under the chairmanship of Gen David Padilla, it was officially reported. Padilla called the cabinet meeting to discuss the situation stemming from the congressmen's decision to elect Walter Guevara Arze as provisional president of the republic. The cabinet meeting is being held at the presidential palace 50 meters from the Congress building where negotiations are still underway to conclude the political agreements stemming from the consensus reached by the political forces represented in Congress.

Attempt To Name Guevara Arze President Fails

PY060610 La Paz Radio Panamericana Network in Spanish 0556 GMT 6 Aug 79 PY

[Excerpt] We are in a position to report that the first agreement, the first accord, for naming Walter Guevara Arze, president of the National Congress, as constitutional president for 1-year period has returned to the starting point. The latest negotiations carried out by Walter Guevara Arze has not met with the agreement of Hernan Siles Zuazo, who is still carrying out a hunger strike in the Congress library.

Congress in Permanent Session, Coup Reported

PY060643 La Paz Radio Panamericana Network in Spanish 0630 GMT 6 Aug 79 PY

[Excerpt] The National Congress has decided to go into permanent session. At the precise moment at which several honorable members of the chambers of senators and deputies were beginning to leave their seats, the deputy for Cochabamba, Marcelo Quiroga Santa Cruz, reported a military coup in Cochabamba City. The charge was reported by Congress and broadcast over the country's television networks. We repeat, the charge of a military coup has been made by Marcelo Quiroga Santa Cruz as the Congress decided to go into permanent session.

Charges of Coup Denied

PY060700 La Paz Radio Panamericana Network in Spanish 0637 GMT 6 Aug 79 PY

[Excerpts] At 0237 we have a report that the National Congress has again called a 30-minute recess to give time to receive a report requested by Deputy Lidia Gueiler, president of the National Congress, from the Government Palace regarding the charge made by Deputy Marcelo Quiroga Santa Cruz that a military coup has taken place in the cities of Cochabamba and Santa Cruz de la Sierra.

A few seconds ago we talked with (Juan Gutierrez), our correspondent in Cochabamba, who told us that tranquillity prevails in the city. The most important thing, however, is that the interior minister, Col Raul Lopez Leyton, has issued a terse statement denying the charge made by Deputy Quiroga Santa Cruz that a subversive movement has taken place in Cochabamba, a sort of a military coup. He said that absolute tranquillity prevails in the entire country and termed as irresponsible the charges made by the Cochabamba deputy, which prompted Congress to go into permanent session.

Congress Recesses Until 1400 GMT

PY060725 [Editorial Report PY] La Paz Radio Panamericana Network in Spanish at 0713 GMT on 6 August reports directly from the Bolivian Congress that the Congress has decided to go into recess until 1400 GMT when it will continue its discussions on electing a president.

Presidential Crisis Continues

NC060829 Paris AFP in English 0801 GMT 6 Aug 79 NC

[Text] La Paz, Aug 6 (AFP)--A row between Bolivia's two main political parties dashed hopes of a compromise candidate being named today to end the country's presidential crisis.

Last night a formula was worked out to name Congress president (speaker) Walter Guevara Arze interim president today. Two days and six rounds of voting by Congress had failed to choose between Victor Paz Estenssoro (right of centre), Hernan Siles Zuazo (left of centre) and former dictator Hugo Banzer.

Congress was required to act after the July 1 presidential election failed to give any candidate an overall majority. Mr Siles Zuazo led the official results of the popular vote by only 1,512 votes over Mr Paz Estenssoro.

The election of Mr Guevara and his installation as president today seemed almost certain last night, although Mr Paz Estenssoro had not immediately given his backing to the compromise plan. Mr Guevara is a former foreign and interior minister, and had been exiled during the Banzer presidency.

ACTIVITIES REPORTED BACK TO NORMAL AFTER STRIKE

PY031618 Paris AFP in Spanish 1545 GMT 3 Aug 79 PY

[Excerpt] La Paz, 3 Aug (AFP)--Bolivia returned to normal today after a 24-hour strike which had paralyzed the country yesterday. Factories resumed operations, banks opened their doors and students returned to classes, while transportation regained its usual status.

COB Declares State of Emergency

PY040314 Paris AFP in Spanish 0021 GMT 4 Aug 79 PY

[Text] La Paz, 3 Aug (AFP)--It is reported that the Bolivian Labor Central [COB] has declared a state of emergency to prevent "a military intervention against the Congress." According to the communique, the COB has created "committees of antifascist defense and for the defense of democratic freedom in Bolivia." The COB unites all Bolivian unions. The COB communique was released 24 hours after a 24-hour strike ordered by the COB in protest of "the electoral fraud of the National Electoral Court" in favor of Victor Paz Estenssoro.

STUDENT PARADE IN LA PAZ CANCELED

PY041344 La Paz Radio Panamericana Network in Spanish 1130 GMT 4 Aug 79 PY

[Excerpt] The Education and Culture Ministry has ordered the cancellation of the student rally and parade today, Saturday, 4 August, because of the latest events which have occurred in this capital. The most important part of the communique says:

After having consulted with security organizations of the state, it has been ordered to cancel the student parade in order to protect the physical security of the La Paz students. This order applies only to La Paz Department, not to the interior of the country, where the parades planned by each district will be held as planned.

HERNAN SILES ZUAZO BEGINS HUNGER STRIKE

PY042150 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 2130 GMT 4 Aug 79 PY

[Text] La Paz, 4 Aug (LATIN)--Leftist presidential candidate Hernan Siles Zuazo began a hunger strike at the building of the National Congress minutes before Congress went into permanent session. The leader of the Democratic and Popular Unity [UDP] demands that Congress ratify his relative victory in the 1 July election.

Siles Protest Delays Congress Session

PY042241 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 2217 GMT 4 Aug 79 PY

[Excerpts] La Paz, 4 Aug (LATIN)--The hunger strike begun by Hernan Siles Zuazo created a commotion here, worsened the postelectoral crisis affecting this nation, and delayed the beginning of the National Congress' permanent session to elect a president and vice president. The Congress has not yet started its permanent session scheduled for 2100 GMT, which must elect the president and vice president. Spokesman of the Democratic and Popular Unity (UDP) said that their candidate's hunger strike will continue indefinitely.

20 Persons Join Hunger Strike

PY051738 Paris AFP in Spanish 1722 GMT 5 Aug 79 PY

[Text] La Paz, 5 Aug (AFP)--It has been reported here that 20 persons today joined the hunger strike which former President Hernan Siles Zuazo began at Congress Palace yesterday. Jaime Paz Zamora, Popular and Democratic Unity (UDP) candidate for vice president, also continues the hunger strike with Siles Zuazo, in addition to two women members of the UDP front headed by Siles Zuazo. The new group of strikers are gathered at the San Francisco Church, in downtown La Paz.

Congress Lifts Press Ban on Siles Zuazo

PY050025 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 2344 GMT 4 Aug 79 PY

[Text] La Paz, 4 Aug (LATIN)--The Bolivian Congress has approved by a majority decision the lifting of the ban imposed on journalists against meeting leftist candidate Hernan Siles Zuazo, who is on a hunger strike in the Congress building. In their first joint vote, the two chambers turned down Senate President Walter Guevara Arze's decision to prohibit the press from entering the room where Siles Zuazo is conducting his hunger strike. The majority of the 139 legislators ordered the lifting of the prohibition.

Jaime Paz Zamora Joins Protest

PY050026 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 2356 GMT 4 Aug 79 PY

[Text] La Paz, 4 Aug (LATIN)--The leftist candidate for the vice presidency of Bolivia, Jaime Paz Zamora, joined here tonight the hunger strike being conducted by presidential candidate Hernan Siles Zuazo.

Paz Zamora, top leader of the Movement of the Revolutionary Left [MIR], which is part of the Democratic and Popular Unity [UDP], said that his action is aimed at the defense of the majority and popular vote. Siles Zuazo and his vice presidential candidate are conducting their protest in a senate office in the Congress building.

ARMY COMMANDER DENIES REPLACEMENT OF MILITARY CHIEFS

PY050142 Paris AFP in Spanish 0129 GMT 5 Aug 79 PY

[Text] La Paz, 4 Aug (AFP)--The army commander, Gen Ramon Azero, today denied by telephone to AFP that the high military command has been replaced. Azero indicated that "everything is calm in the armed forces, and reports stating otherwise are aimed at disorienting the public." Rumors about the replacement by President David Padilla of the military chiefs circulated in the Congress hallways tonight.

MILITARY GOVERNMENT TO RESPECT CONGRESS' RESOLUTIONS

PY061413 La Paz Radio Panamericana Network in Spanish 1355 GMT 6 Aug 79 PY

[Text] Interior Minister Raul Lopez Leyton told the national press that the military government junta will respect the resolutions made by the National Congress, which is trying to elect the constitutional president of the republic. The interior minister also said that the hour and date of the transfer of power will be postponed in accordance with decisions made by the honorable National Congress. He also said before leaving Government House at 0430 today that there is complete tranquility in the entire national territory.

SPANISH PRIME MINISTER ARRIVES FOR 4-DAY VISIT

PY050341 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 0228 GMT 5 Aug 79 PY

[Text] Rio de Janeiro, 4 Aug (LATIN)--Spanish Prime Minister Adolfo Suarez arrived here today for a 4-day visit to Brazil. Suarez was welcomed at the military air base of this city by Governor Antonio de Padua Chagas Freitas and other high officials of the state and city. The Spanish prime minister will stay in Rio unofficially until Monday. He will then travel to Brasilia for 2 days to meet with government officials, including Brazilian President Joao Baptista Figueiredo.

Suarez To Discuss Democratization

PY052059 Paris AFP in Spanish 1929 GMT 3 Aug 79 PY

[Excerpts] Brasilia, 5 Aug (AFP)--Adolfo Suarez, chief of the Spanish Government, will begin an official visit to Brazil tomorrow, Monday. Observers here believed today that the visit is an endorsement of the open-door policy now being followed by Joao Baptista Figueiredo's government.

Brazilian Foreign Minister Ramiro Saraiva Guerreiro, on the other hand, recently voiced his irritation over the Brazilians "of a colonial mentality who look upon Suarez' visit as an important moment in the Brazilian democratization process."

Suarez, who arrived yesterday in Rio de Janeiro for a private visit, remarked in his turn that "it is very difficult to export political solutions used in one country, because they always depend on local conditions."

According to observers, there is no doubt that the Spanish democratization process will be analyzed during the meetings between Suarez and Brazilian President Joao Figueiredo. The sources said, however, that it was possible that the Brazilian officials will tell Suarez that "they will not tolerate receiving lessons in democracy from the Spaniards."

The two parties will also examine Spain's entry into the European Common Market. Brazil undoubtedly will try to provide itself with an ally to protect itself against European protectionism, the sources explained.

Suarez will leave Brasilia next Wednesday and to Sao Paulo, from where he will leave on Thursday for Ecuador, before visiting the Dominican Republic.

Suarez on Amnesty in Spain

PY061301 Sao Paulo Radio Bandeirantes Network in Portuguese 1000 GMT 6 Aug 79 PY

[Text] After a day of touring Rio de Janeiro, Spanish Prime Minister Adolfo Suarez held a brief meeting with the local press. He told reporters that the amnesty granted in Spain to those charged with political crimes had been a great step toward the country's redemocratization. Regarding the political contacts he will hold in Brasilia, Suarez limited himself to saying that those contacts only aim at tightening trade relations between Brazil and Spain.

STRIKES CONTINUE IN BELO HORIZONTE

PY031507 Sao Paulo Radio Bandeirantes Network in Portuguese 1000 GMT 3 Aug 79 PY

[Text] The Belo Horizonte Regional Labor Court yesterday discussed the collective negligence of civil construction workers. (Joaquim Leonardo) reports directly from Belo Horizonte.

[Begin (Leonardo) relayed report] The meeting of the regional labor court ended at 2000 yesterday. It discussed the collective strike of the Belo Horizonte civil construction workers. A base salary of 3,600 cruzeiros for apprentices, 6,500 for bricklayers, 12,000 cruzeiros for foremen, and 20,000 for the master builders, has been established.

Regarding the truck drivers, the strike continues and most of the autonomous drivers are not transporting anything despite a proposal for an emergency 25 percent increase in freight prices. They did not accept the proposal and continue the strike. Most gas stations in Belo Horizonte are out of gasoline and the city is almost paralyzed. [end relayed report]

Justice Minister Comments on Events

PY040343 Rio de Janeiro JORNAL DO BRASIL in Portuguese 3 Aug 79 p 2 PY

[Excerpt] Justice Minister Petronio Portella conceded yesterday for the first time that the economic crisis "will inevitably" hinder the process of political liberalization, "which will be carried out as reality permits, a reality which is also dependent on economic factors."

He said that in view of the crisis, the government is "concentrating most of its efforts on the economic problem, which has become a priority," but he denied the possibility that the regime might harden. In the face of violent acts like those perpetrated by construction workers in Minas Gerais, the government will react with "equal intensity, because it has to protect the tranquility of all Brazilians."

In a lecture he gave at the Superior War College yesterday, Justice Minister Portella said that the events in Belo Horizonte were "very deplorable" and that it was to be expected that "such events will not continue and will not spread." According to the minister, the government's reaction of equal intensity "always in accordance with the law, arresting those who intend to abuse freedom," does not mean that the regime will harden, but it is a statement of firmness, because no regime, democratic or not, can remain or survive if its does not act in the face of emergencies."

He added: "The state cannot remain passive whenever social peace is disturbed. It will have to intervene, making itself felt, always in accordance with the law, as I said.

Some Stoppages End, Others Continue

PY041339 Sao Paulo Radio Bandeirantes Network in Portuguese 1000 GMT 4 Aug 79 PY

[Text] His head bleeding from a wound caused by a stone thrown by his fellow workers, Francisco Pizarro, president of the union of construction workers of Minas Gerais, yesterday announced in Belo Horizonte the end of the construction workers' strike. Pizarro's inability to control the assembly caused several incidents which resulted in workers throwing stones at each other.

In Rio de Janeiro, the striking teachers were surprised yesterday by the arrest of their leader, Godofredo da Silva Pinto, president of the state teachers association. He was arrested by agents of the Department of Political and Social Order on charges of inciting an illegal strike. He may be charged with violation of the national security law. Upon his release at 2000 last night, Da Silva Pinto told the press that the teachers will not yield to intimidation and vowed that the strike will be maintained until the teachers' just demands are met.

In Salvador, the wildcat strike [greve branca] of bus drivers and conductors of the city has intensified. They are protesting the elimination of the commission granted to drivers and conductors on their daily collection, that is, 3 and 1 percent, respectively. Yesterday, most buses did not pick up passengers at intermediate stations and circulated at a speed of 10 km per hour. This was called operation snail. Most radical sectors are already threatening to declare an all-out strike.

The 3,000 workers of the Fiat-diesel plant in Rio de Janeiro have decided to return to work on Monday after a 2-week strike. The enterprise finally yielded to the workers' latest demand, that is, the reinstatement of worker Luis Paulo Gianni, who had been fired as a result of the strike.

Prisoners To Continue Hunger Strike

PY061342 Sao Paulo Radio Bandeirantes Network in Portuguese 1000 GMT 6 Aug 79 PY

[Text] Members of the congressional joint commission which is studying the amnesty project have been visiting the 14 political prisoners at the Milton Dias Prison in Rio de Janeiro. The prisoners, who are on a hunger strike, told the congressmen that they hoped Congress would approve a far more wide-ranging amnesty. The following senators were present at the Milton Dias Prison: Pedro Simon [Brazilian Democratic Movement--MDB--Rio Grande do Sul] and Itamar Franco [MDB--Minas Gerais] in addition to Deputy Benjamin Farah [MDB--Rio de Janeiro].

ARENA [National Renewal Alliance] Deputy [name indistinct] who is a member of the commission, has expressed his support for the creation of subcommittees charged with visiting the political prisoners. In Rio de Janeiro, the 14 fasting political prisoners had reaffirmed their intention to continue their hunger strike indefinitely.

CITIZEN ALLEGES BRUTALITY BY PARAGUAYAN OFFICIALS

PY032212 Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 2 Aug 79 p 17 PY

[Excerpt] Romildo Flausio Goncalves has complained to the police of Parana state about the practice of all kinds of violent acts--extortion, stealing, torture, brutality and even assassination--against Brazilian families residing in Paraguay. To back up his charges against Paraguayan officials, Goncalves brought with him a package of documents weighing more than 20 kilograms. Goncalves lived in Paraguay for more than 6 years, facing many difficulties. Goncalves recently retained lawyers Carlos Andre Ortiz and Amilcar Pastor Bordao to file a court suit, and "because of that, I was arbitrarily arrested and had to pay 700,000 cruzeiros to obtain my release and to have my papers legalized. All these maneuvers had the protection of Pedro Matiauda, judge in Hernandarias." According to Goncalves, that judge heads a gang of thieves of which lawyers Andre Ortiz, Amilcar Bordao and Oscar Cardoso are members. The extortions are always carried out through illegal imprisonment, brutality and torture against Brazilian peasants who are raising soybeans and peppermint in that region of Paraguay.

DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS ESTABLISHED WITH SINGAPORE

PY031615 Santiago Chile Diplomatic Information Service in Spanish 0042 GMT 3 Aug 79 PY

[Excerpt] The Foreign Ministry officially announced today that the governments of Chile and Singapore will establish diplomatic relations at embassy level.

INFLATION RATE PLACED AT 19.3 PERCENT AS OF JULY

PY031244 Paris AFP in Spanish 1726 GMT 2 Aug 79 PY

[Text] Santiago, Chile, 2 Aug (AFP)--The National Statistics Institute (INE) reported here today that inflation in Chile reached a level of 19.3 percent during the first 7 months of the year. The INE, a department of the Economy Ministry, indicated that during July 1979 consumer prices had an average increase of 3.6 percent. Last year inflation in Chile reached 30.3 percent.

12 Percent Inflation Predicted

PY031405 Santiago Chile Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 3 Aug 79 PY

[Excerpt] According to National Planning Office [ODEPLAN] Director Miguel Kast, the annual rate of inflation in the next 2 years will be 12 percent. Speaking at a seminar in Concepcion, Kast said that this possibility is based on the current economic system. He added that later this 12 percent could be reduced to 10 percent. He indicates that this year's inflation is expected to improve the standards of living of the people and create a tax system which would help decrease inflation.

COURT OVERRULES MINISTRY, ALLOWS WOMAN TO RETURN

PY031451 Santiago Chile Diplomatic Service in Spanish 2158 GMT 28 Jul 79 PY

[Text] The government will allow Chilean citizen Luz Rosa Yolanda Ramirez Aravena, who is currently in the FRG, to return to the country after the Supreme Court unanimously ruled that the Interior Ministry resolution prohibiting her return was groundless. When asked about the case, the chief of staff of the Interior Ministry said "the interior minister will abide by the ruling of the court and abrogate the resolution to properly comply with the decision of the Supreme Court."

The Interior Ministry had been refusing to allow Mrs Ramirez' return, alleging that during her stay abroad she had been "indoctrinated by those who conduct abroad activities contrary to the interests of the nation and therefore, her return would pose a danger for national security." However, the Supreme Court rejected these charges, stating that "the documents received by the court indicated that the petitioner had carried out no political activities at her place of residence in the FRG, where she had arrived in March 1975 on a Chilean passport together with her 11-year old daughter."

BRIEFS

COPPER PRODUCTION, EXPORTS--Santiago, Chile, 30 Jul (LATIN)--The Chilean Copper Commission has reported that copper production and exporting decreased during the first 4 months of this year compared with the same period during 1978. Exports amounted to 297.9 thousand tons, compared with 328.4 thousand tons, which represents a decrease of 9.3 percent. Production amounted to 337.2 thousand tons, compared with 341.1 thousand tons, which represents a decrease of 1.2 percent. The consumption of copper in Chile for this same period amounted to 14.4 tons, compared with 13 tons in 1978. [Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 1907 GMT 30 Jul 79 PY]

COMMISSION VERIFIES TORTURE OF POLITICAL PRISONERS

PA050300 Bogota EL ESPECTADOR in Spanish 3 Aug 79 pp 1A, 10A PA

[Excerpt] Medellin, 2 Aug--During a special departmental assembly session and in response to a proposal introduced by Deputies Lorenzo Garces and Jaime Sepulveda, the commission appointed to verify charges of torture against several political prisoners in military garrisons in this city concluded, after visiting the Bellavista Prison, that torture is actually going on in battalions in this area, pursuant to Article 28 of the National Constitution and the "Security Statute." "...we were able to verify and see that in Colombia--in Antioquia, in the various military battalions located in Uraba, Magdalena, and even in Bombona, in urban Medellin--political prisoners are being tortured and the human rights of tranquility and respect for one's person are being violated," says the report to the special session.

The commission that visited political prisoners in Bellavista Prison also reported: "We verified that many men, merely because they dissent in some way or are friends of a person singled out as subversive, are arrested and tortured without trial, as is the case with Dr Leonardo Betancur Taborda." The commission asked the assembly to appoint a group to collect data on tortures and report to the attorney general so that he can conduct a thorough investigation and mete out punishment pursuant to administrative and penal provisions. "...no national decree or law allows the torture of Colombian citizens; rather it is regarded as a violation of the universal declaration of human rights, which is endorsed by our country," the commission pointed out.

GUERRILLAS ATTACK RURAL TOWN IN META

PA031426 Bogota EL ESPECTADOR in Spanish 1 Aug 79 p 6-A PA

[Report by Hugo Montes]

[Excerpts] Villavicencio, Colombia, 31 Jul--A guerrilla group made up of some 70 well-armed elements in military uniform seized the rural town of Pinalito, under the jurisdiction of Vistahermosa Municipality, Meta, for 4 hours and, after gathering its 500 residents, delivered several lengthy speeches praising revolutionary struggle and criticizing the present system. After that, they proceeded to set fire to the Colombian Telecommunications Enterprise (TELECOM) installations and to the police headquarters, where they destroyed all files. The guerrillas, men and women of average education, according to a number of eyewitnesses, identified themselves as members of the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC) and urged all of that distant area's residents to abstain from voting in the next elections because voting amounts to electing the very enemies of the people. According to the official reports released by the departmental Government Secretariat and the Administrative Department of Security, police inspector Orlando Cortes escaped as soor as he realized it was a guerrilla attack. He arrived in Vistahermosa Municipality at midnight and notified the authorities about the incident. The rebel occupation began at 2000 Tuesday.

The rebels took with them the weapons that the inspectors of the Institute for Development of Renewable Natural Resources had been carrying and the few typewriters that the TELECOM employees had, but they did not harm anyone. The guerrillas distributed a large amount of subversive propaganda inviting people to support the revolutionary forces which for some time now have been operating in a vast area of the eastern plains.

STROESSNER DISCUSSES NICARAGUA, YACYRETA IN INTERVIEW

PY281948 Paris AFP in Spanish 1752 GMT 27 Jul 79 PY

[Text] Asuncion, 27 Jul (AFP)--Any parallel drawn between the events in Nicaragua and the possible political evolution of Paraguay is senseless, because nothing or no one can alter the course of peaceful coexistence whose sole beneficiary is the Paraguayan people, President Alfredo Stroessner stated here today. The Paraguayan president, who granted an exclusive interview to AFP, referred to certain comments made in Europe and Latin America regarding the possible implications for Paraguay stemming from the events in Nicaragua. Stroessner indicated that his country "knows very well the origin of this campaign of defamation and veiled threats." For the Paraguayan president, who has been in power for 25 years, the political evolution of his country is clear: "We will continue to perfect our democracy, but we are going to achieve this perfection within a democracy, without communism and without communists." The text of the interview follows:

[Question] Drawing a parallel between the "Nicaraguan case" and the political evolution of Paraguay, what is Your Excellency's opinion on the recent events in Nicaragua in view of the political evolution of your country?

[Answer] All types of reports, whose origin we know very well in Paraguay, are seeking, in effect, to draw parallels, likenesses and conclusions. They constitute nothing new for us. I add something more: This campaign of defamation and veiled threats will continue, but to the disgrace of these self-seeking doomsayers. Not only do they make no sense, but nothing or no one can alter the course of national peaceful coexistence whose sole beneficiary is the Paraguayan people, for whom my government, the powerful political party which comprises it (the National Republican Association--Colorado Party), our loyal armed forces and myself personally are faithful and responsible representatives.

As for the political evolution for the foreseeable future, there is only one answer, clear and final, and that is that we will continue to perfect our democracy, in a climate of peace, order, respect and liberty. Within this context, compromise is impossible. The perfection for which we are searching--and much of which we already have achieved--will be obtained under the protection of the constitution and the laws and, armed with them, we will continue to safeguard and defend, with the utmost firmness, the sovereignty, independence, territorial integrity and free determination of our country and our people. But this perfection will be achieved wholly within a democracy, without communism and without communists.

[Question] Talk persists in Brazil and Argentina of a Paraguayan "pendular" policy toward its neighbors. What opinion do you have of this, Mr President?

[Answer] This is an old tune. Some time ago I responded to a similar question from a colleague of yours, saying that he should not mistake us for a clock. Nonetheless, it's a good time for me to emphasize that each country has the duty and the right to execute its own policy in accordance with its own interests and its own goals. If this were not so, then yes, this country or the government which represents it would be pendular because we would never find the proper point of equilibrium. We have one sole policy, and that is Paraguayan, in accordance with Paraguayan interests and carried out with Paraguayan criteria. If this is being pendular, then I welcome the label.

[Question] What is the actual position of Paraguay on the Yacyreta hydroelectric project and on the case of the Pilcomayo River as they pertain to Argentina?

[Answer] There is only one position: We are a nation earnestly desirous of maximum collaboration between friendly countries. We have not spared, nor will we spare, any effort to achieve through that collaboration the implementation of plans and joint ventures. Yacyreta, then, comes within this framework and may be implemented whenever the high and supreme interests of my country are taken into account. We act with the clearest and best goodwill. From sincere dialog will come the solutions....

[Question] What is your assessment, Your Excellency, of the future of the River Plate Basin?

[Answer] In all international relations time, dialog and, through dialog, understanding are the essential elements. With this criterion there is no cause to be pessimistic.

DEBERNARDI SAYS NO DECISION ON YACYRETA

PY032325 Asuncion ABC COLOR in Spanish 3 Aug 79 p 12 PY

[Excerpt] "Paraguay will remain firm in its demand that the flooding of its territory be reduced, keeping as guidelines only the technical specifications for the construction of the dam," said Enzo Debernardi yesterday with regard to the Yacyreta Dam binational project. He also said that this matter is still under study by the government and that no decision has yet been made. Enzo Debernardi, head of the National Power Administration (ANDE), also pointed out during the interview that "our country will not accept any new design chosen by Argentina. The two countries willreach an agreement during the studies for a new design, and this will not be the first, second or third design, it will be a new design insuring Paraguay less flooding of its territory." Debernardi said: "I believe that no decision has been made regarding studies underway on a new design for the Yacyreta Dam and the compensation for Paraguay, since the high-level meetings will continue next week."

Foreign Minister Confirmation

PY032327 Asuncion HOY in Spanish 3 Aug 79 p 9 PY

[Excerpt] Foreign Minister Alberto Nogues said to HOY regarding the Yacyreta negotiations: "The Economic Coordination Council which met Wednesday did study in general terms technical information regarding the project, including the compensation which our country must get as a result of the difference in the area flooded. No decision was made regarding the design or the compensation, since we are going through a very complex process of evaluating information and data which will aid us, as I have said previously, in making the appropriate decision." Nogues also pointed out: "It is absolutely premature, now and for some time to come, to predict any government resolution regarding this important matter."

BRIEFS

TRADE DEFICIT WITH BRAZIL--According to statistics released by the Paraguayan Central Bank, the deficit in the trade balance with Brazil during 1978 exceeded $42 million. The deficit for 1979 amounted to more than $20 million at the end of May. [Asuncion ABC COLOR in Spanish 3 Aug 79 p 13 PY]

PRESIDENT HERRERA CAMPINS CANCELS TRIP TO BOLIVIA

PA042238 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2152 GMT 4 Aug 79 PA

[Excerpts] Caracas, 4 Aug (EFE)--President Luis Herrera Campins has canceled his trip to Bolivia. He had planned to attend the presidential inauguration there Monday. A brief communique from the minister of the Secretariat of the Presidency, Gonzalo Garcia Bustillos, says President Herrera's decision is due to the situation in Bolivia. The communique also announced that President Herrera will go to Quito Thursday to attend Jaime Roldos' inauguration.

NEWSPAPER SAYS GOVERNMENT CONDITIONS AID TO NICARAGUA

PA050220 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 0100 GMT 5 Aug 79 PA

[Text] Caracas--Venezuela has conditioned its support to Nicaragua upon the presence of a Social Christian in the junta of the Government of National Reconstruction and to guarantees that Nicaragua will adopt a moderate course, the DIARIO DE CARACAS reported today. The newspaper said it has learned that President Luis Herrera Campins clearly told Nicaraguan junta member Alfonso Robelo Callejas that the Venezuelan Government conditions its aid to Nicaragua on the inclusion of a Social Christian in the Government of National Reconstruction. The Venezuelan Government feels that it cannot provide unconditional aid and that instead it should exert influence to obtain guarantees that Nicaragua will ta a moderate course, the [word indistinct] said.

LEFTISTS PLEDGE CONGRESSIONAL SUPPORT TO GOVERNMENT

PA031954 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 1439 GMT 3 Aug 79 PA

[Text] Caracas, 3 Aug (LATIN)--President Luis Herrera Campins has obtained congressional support from three leftist parties for the approval of 13 billion bolivares ($2.8 billion) in additional credits which the opposition Democratic Action [AD] Party would have denied it. For the first time in 2 decades of democratic government, a disagreement between the Social Christian Party and AD was solved yesterday with the congressional votes of leftist groups. The president met at Miraflores Palace with leaders of the Movement for Socialism, the People's Electoral Movement and the Movement of the Revolutionary Left.

MORE GUERRILLAS ACCEPT 'PACIFICATION POLICY'

PA050052 Caracas EL UNIVERSAL in Spanish 1 Aug 79 sec 2 p 28 PA

[Text] Barcelona [Venezuela], 31 Jul (INNAC)--Guerrilla Commander Vergenis Veracierta, his wife Elizabeth Guillen Veracierta, her two brothers and Ramon Rojas, another member of the armed group that operated in the eastern part of the country for several years, announced today that they have accepted the government's pacification policy. "We will discuss our decision at greater length later," the guerrilla leader said during a visit with relatives in the town of Bergantin, 40 km from here.

HUMAN RIGHTS DEMONSTRATORS TAKE OVER SWISS EMBASSY

PA032224 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2127 GMT 3 Aug 79 PA

[Text] Mexico City, 3 Aug (EFE)--Fifty persons occupied the Swiss Embassy today, demanding that human rights be upheld in the country. The protesters, mostly women, belong to the "National Independent Committee on Behalf of Political Prisoners, the Persecuted and the Unaccounted For." The demonstrators demanded to know the whereabouts of 585 people they described as "politically unaccounted for." They also called for a "halt to repression" and "a halt to torture" in Mexican jails.

Protesters Reportedly Leave

PA040148 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0113 GMT 4 Aug 79 PA

[Text] Mexico City, 3 Aug (EFE)--Government sources said today that the persons occupying the Swiss Embassy in Mexico vacated it this afternoon without incident. The protesters, members of the "National Independent Committee on Behalf of Political Prisoners, the Persecuted and the Unaccounted For" had invaded the embassy Friday morning. The same source said that the embassy was vacated around 1800 (0000 GMT). Terms of the agreement which ended occupation of the embassy have not been revealed, but it was learned that a delegation from the group may be received tonight by high-ranking government (Interior) Secretariat officials.

No Conditions Set

PA041933 Paris AFP in Spanish 1843 GMT 4 Aug 79 PA

[Text] Mexico City, 4 Aug (AFP)--Swiss Charge d'Affaires in Mexico Paul Andre Ramseyyer announced here today that the occupants of the Swiss Embassy in Mexico have not set "any condition" for their evacuation of the embassy's premises on Monday. Approached as he was leaving the embassy to go home and rest, Ramseyyer said that at 0100 local time (0700 GMT) his country's government had authorized the embassy occupants to remain there on the condition that their conduct be irreproachable.

Having been promised that the embassy would be evacuated on Monday at 1900 (0100 GMT on Tuesday), the Swiss Government also agreed not to request the Mexican authorities' official intervention. The embassy occupants, who want 150 Mexican political prisoners to be released and an explanation given as to the fate of 585 "missing persons," will be received at 1900 on Monday by Deputy Interior Secretary Rodolfo Gonzalez Guevara.

According to Ramseyyer, "regardless of the Mexican Government's response to the embassy occupants' demands, they promised to evacuate the embassy without creating any incidents." He added: "This is a human problem and for that reason we must be cordial to the occupants, whom we have provided with all possible facilities inside the embassy." The embassy occupants are members of the National Independent Committee on Behalf of Political Prisoners, the Persecuted and the Unaccounted For, which was created last year by relatives of prisoners. The organization has primarily been demanding the full implementation of an amnesty law approved last September.

ROYO: ENTER CANAL WITH PEOPLE, NOT PROTOCOL

PA040230 Panama City Domestic Service in Spanish 2230 GMT 3 Aug 79 PA

[Text] We do not want to enter the Canal Zone with protocol; we are going to enter with all the people, President Aristides Royo said at the Provincial Coordination Council today in Santiago, Veraguas Province. Referring to a resolution issued by the Veraguas Corregimiento representatives supporting the signing of the Torrijos-Carter treaties, President Royo said: I want to thank you for the resolution in which you mention the Provincial Coordination Council, recognize the importance of the Torrijos-Carter treaties and give thanks to General Torrijos. Even though negotiations lasted 13 years, it was during the last years, thanks to the national pressures, that this liberation cause became the religion of all Panamanians, except for a few, unfortunately-not-very-honorable exceptions. The international pressures created by the great leader, who took the Panamanian cause to the whole world, turned it into a matter of international detente whose solution would help ease tensions between the United States and Latin America and even between the United States and the whole world. I believe the day will come when it will be written that the canal matter was not only a Panamanian affair; it became a cause for the nonalined, the OAS, the UN Security Council--a cause that involved most of the nations and governments in the whole world, which offered their support.

This was made possible because in Panama there was a revolutionary process and because Panama had a visionary such as Torrijos. In his name, because he is not here, I accept these thanks and this recognition. However, I also liked very much the part saying that on 1 October we are all going to the Canal Zone. Obviously we do not want to enter with protocol; we are going to enter with all the people. I am sure that, except for the old Canal Zone, the rest of the country will be deserted because I do not believe any Panamanian will want to remain at home and everyone will want to be present when the people enter the Canal Zone. Let me tell you that the place at Albrook Field where the main ceremony will take place, with the participation of the masses, can hold over 250,000 persons. Among these there will be many people from Veraguas, as well as many other Panamanians who have lived through the struggle of national liberation.

PAPER COMMENTS FAVORABLY ON MCAULIFFE APPOINTMENT

PA031611 Panama City LA ESTRELLA DE PANAMA in Spanish 3 Aug 79 p 4 PA

[Editorial: "A Good Gesture on the Part of President Carter"]

[Text] It is almost certain that once the U.S. Congress approves the still-pending implementing legislation for the Torrijos-Carter treaties, President Carter will appoint Southern Command Chief Lt Gen Dennis McAuliffe to the post of Panama Canal commission administrator. We regard the U.S. President's gesture as positive because he has selected someone who not only meets all requirements to carry out a task of great responsibility but who, in the 4 years he has been living in the Canal Zone, has also shown the best of dispositions toward the Panamanian people. In keeping with the new treaties already ratified by our two countries, as of 1 October Panama will participate in the waterway's coadministration until 1990--after which time a Panamanian will hold the post of administrator--and in the directive board. In this manner, Panama will be able to remain vigilant in regard to the other party's attitude and will have the opportunity to learn more about the details of this delicate activity in order to be able to render this service after the year 2000. Since it was negotiated that the U.S. military presence would gradually disappear under the treaty, General McAuliffe's experience in military affairs will benefit his successor, who will be able to count on somebody who will assume different responsibilities but who will undoubtedly help him establish a better relationship and understanding between the U.S. Armed Forces and Panama's National Guard.

In the course of the heated U.S. Senate debate on the Torrijos-Carter treaties and on several later occasions, several persons either directly or indirectly connected with the subject from sectors either in favor or opposed to the treaties have been summoned to Washington to make statements and answer all types of questions. General McAuliffe has always been in favor of the agreements and has stressed the need for a new relationship between our two countries. Now he will have the opportunity to practice the means to achieve that objective, which must prevail in the attitude of the Panama Canal commission members.

PAPER HAILS COUNTRY'S ROLE IN NICARAGUAN VICTORY

PA031942 Panama City MATUTINO in Spanish 3 Aug 79 pp 4-A, 8-A PA

["El Reportaje de Hoy" column by Popular Broad Front National Directorate member Miguel Montiel: "Hail the Three: Carazo, Torrijos and Carlos Andres"--passages in capitals were so published]

[Excerpts] Panama today occupies a vanguard place within the framework of the peoples' struggle for national liberation. In that struggle, and under General Torrijos' leadership, our people have dealt U.S. imperial power two significant blows: first, whether opponents from right or left in this country like it or not, with the Torrijos-Carter treaties Panama has weakened the omnipotent U.S. power and created new and better conditions of struggle for our total and final liberation. Second, with the fundamental support that Panama gave the Nicaraguan people in their struggle against tyrant Somoza, Panama not only helped democratize Nicaragua but has also helped create the conditions needed to democratize all of Central America through the total defeat of the principal enemy of democracy in the area: Anastasio Somoza Debayle and his godfather the United States. Only the historical myopia (or rather the incurable blindness) and the irresponsibility of Panama's extreme left, which painted on walls and trumpeted over the radio stations that "Somoza and Torrijos are the same thing," can try to ignore the very important role that our country played in the battle of Nicaragua. Today Panama's name is mentioned with deep respect everywhere in the world. Yesterday it was heroic Vietnam that did this by recognizing Panama's victory over Yankee imperialism with the Torrijos-Carter treaties. Today it is the Nicaraguan people who do this through their vivas for General Torrijos. But since Panamanian extreme leftists, the "superrevolutionaries of chants and slogans," ALLIED IN PRACTICE to the most reactionary U.S. sectors and to the National Opposition Front [FRENO] politickers, are "more revolutionary than the Vietnamese and the Sandinists put together," they will continue shouting and trumpeting not "Torrijos and Somoza are the same thing" but any other aberration they might come up with. Meanwhile, despite the extreme leftists and the enemies of democracy who have allied within FRENO, General Torrijos' democratization project continues extending beyond our own borders, as the battle of Nicaragua has shown. The victory of democracy in Nicaragua has served to prove to our people the falsehood of those who speak about democracy on the radio stations but who in fact support tyranny such as that of Somoza. It has served to show our people the irresponsibility of those who "shout and trumpet ultrarevolutionary slogans," trying in this manner to be more revolutionary than anybody else. Finally, the battle and victory of Nicaragua must help our people unmask all those who in the name of "God and fatherland" defend fascism, those who use anticommunism as a mask behind which a Somoza is in hiding. They must make our people understand that because of their nature, because of the economic interests they represent, because of the fascist ideas they profess, because of their openly declared opposition to the popular conquests of the past 10 years, because of their oligarchic nature and because of the fact that just like Somoza they have killed and imprisoned hundreds of students, workers, peasants and intellectuals when they were in the government, yesterday's political parties both inside and outside FRENO have, in essence, the seed of Somozism within them. As Gen Omar Torrijos himself once neatly and impressively reflected, "oligarchy has no nationality." [Signed] Prof Miguel Montiel

BELIZE

AUGUST ELECTIONS OFF; PAPER CRITICIZES PUP, PRAISES UDP PROGRAM

FL031625 Belize City THE REPORTER in English 29 Jul 79 pp 1, 6 FL

[Text] Expectations of early elections in Belize were dashed today in the House of Representatives.

Those who had gone to Belmopan hoping to see the House dissolved and new elections set for August, walked away disappointed. The premier's decision to hold on for a few months more is being interpreted to mean that he and his party intend to continue in government until November or December. The last general elections were held on Wednesday, October 30, 1974. Price at a public meeting told his supporters that elections would come "like a thief in the night", but by law he is obliged to announce 30 days before voting time.

This year's elections are expected to be the keenest and most decisive since Belizeans started to vote under universal adult suffrage in the 1950's. At stake is a whole new concept of development for Belize in which private enterprise and personal initiative play their full part in bringing Belize to a peak of development awareness with opportunities and incentives where development action inevitably follows.

PUP [People's United Party], which has been completely in command of the government since 1964, charges that the UDP [United Democratic Party] opposition is a group of power-hungry adventurers who do not know how to govern; but after 15 years in government and millions of development dollars to spend, the PUP has not been able to evolve a development strategy that works to reduce unemployment, improve housing or stand up to inflation. Instead the PUP government has become more autocratic, more repressive, more corrupt and correspondingly more receptive to new leftist ideologies coming in from the Caribbean and from Cuba. Despite record-breaking revenue collections from customs, income tax and stamp duties, the government has been living on a hand-to-mouth basis, requiring new issues of treasury bills almost every month to make ends meet, and for three successive years has spent more on domestic programmes than it collected in revenue.

The United Democratic Party had drawn up an impressive manifesto which it hopes to release next week. Among other things the party pledges itself to create new capital formation in Belize through taxation incentives.

It commits itself to remove all taxes on local savings, to abolish estate duties and to take away the tax on owner-occupied residences. UDP also promises to create income-tax free zones to stimulate development in less developed areas and will increase the allowances available on earnings for income tax assessment purposes.

COSTA RICA

GOVERNMENT SEEKS U.S. AID TO SEND TEACHERS TO NICARAGUA

PA051700 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1330 GMT 5 Aug 79 PA

[Text] U.S. Embassy officials in San Jose said that the Costa Rican Government has asked the United States to pay the salaries of 1,000 retired teachers that Costa Rica has offered to send to Nicaragua. Official Costa Rican sources indicated that the idea of sending these teachers to Nicaragua is an attempt to counteract an alleged increasing Cuban influence in Nicaragua.

An undisclosed source said that the day after the war was over, Cuba sent 50 teachers to Nicaragua and offered to send more teachers and textbooks if requested. The same source said that Costa Rica made a similar offer. It also said that it would continue paying the teachers their pensions if the United States would pay their salaries.

NICARAGUAN IMMIGRATION RESTRICTED, REPATRIATION BEGINS

PA041434 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1200 GMT 4 Aug 79 PA

[Text] The Public Security Ministry's immigration department has announced that from now on every Nicaraguan arriving in our country must bring with him $150 and a return ticket, just as was done before the civil war. Of the nearly 42,000 Nicaraguan refugees who entered our country as a result of the war which began in May, only 6,680 have left. For its part, the National Committee To Aid Nicaraguan Refugees has announced that the voluntary repatriation of those refugees who lived in Rivas will begin on Tuesday. Those interested must show up Monday at the committee's central office, located in the Costa Rican Red Cross building, to pick up their tickets. An exit visa must be included among their documents. Once the Rivas residents have been repatriated, refugees from other Nicaraguan cities will follow. Meanwhile, it has been announced that each Nicaraguan family leaving the country will receive a box containing food for 15 days worth 350 colones, donated by the United Nations. Individuals will receive half these supplies in order to alleviate the situation they will face in Nicaragua.

BRIEFS

AMBASSADOR'S TRANSFER--San Jose, 3 Aug (ACAN-EFE)--Hanan Olamy, Israeli ambassador to Costa Rica, has been transferred to the Israeli diplomatic mission in Panama at an equal rank. Olamy has served as ambassador to Costa Rica for the past 3 years. [Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2018 GMT 3 Aug 79 PA]

NEW ARCHBISHOP--San Jose, 2 Aug (ACAN-EFE)--Msgr Roman Arrieta Villalobos became the new archbishop of San Jose today in a religious ceremony held in the City of Cartago. Monsignor Arrieta, who is vice president of the Latin American Bishops Council, replaces Msgr Carlos Humberto Rodriguez Quiros, who has been disabled by illness. [Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2009 GMT 2 Aug 79 PA]

MORE RESISTANT SUGARCANE--Deputy Agriculture Minister (Willie Loria) has reported that his ministry will provide sugarcane growers in northern Costa Rica with new sugarcane cuttings [semillas] that are more resistant to sugarcane rust disease. He said that the northern region produces 14 percent of the country's sugarcane, so cultivation in the region must be improved. [San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 0100 GMT 5 Aug 79 PA]

EL SALVADOR

PRESIDENT ROMERO PROMISES 'PURE, FREE' ELECTIONS

PA041658 San Salvador LA PRENSA GRAFICA in Spanish 1 Aug 79 pp 3, 52 PA

[Text] "Whatever the cost, and even if the eternal opponents of the government do not believe it, there will be absolutely free elections in El Salvador," President Gen Carlos Humberto Romero announced yesterday. "We have already begun taking the necessary steps to fulfill this promise and we will continue to do this in the future, until that ideal of the Salvadoran people has materialized. "We are creating awareness among all of the country's official, private and popular sectors in order to fulfill the electoral program and achieve total purity in next year's elections and any others held in the future," the president added.

President Romero then referred to the armed forces' apolitical nature, noting that all soldiers, noncommissioned officers and officers are fully aware of their positions as professionals. In the future, the national army's specific duties will be more clearly defined at the military centers in order to provide the citizens with a true image of their apolitical nature. The process is already in progress, the president indicated, adding that the military will guarantee the country's security and sovereignty from within their headquarters.

The president then stressed that in order to achieve his objectives, he needs the cooperation of all sectors sincerely interested in the country's political well-being. Romero reiterated that all duly registered political parties will be able to participate in the next electoral process with the certainty that there will be electoral purity.

Asked about the situation of Jose Napoleon Duarte, who reportedly will return to this country, the president responded: "He may return to this country any time he wants and the sooner he does so, the better." He added that anyone wanting to return to the country may do so and, regarding Duarte's specific case, he said that if he is planning to return to this country "he can do so anytime he pleases because nothing and no one will prevent his return."

A little over 2 years ago, Jose Napoleon Duarte and Dr Jose Antonio Morales Ehrlich left our country in the wake of serious incidents in this capital when Libertad Plaza, occupied at the time by members of the national opposition union, was evacuated. Moraels Ehrlich recently returned to the country and announced that Jose Napoleon Duarte is also planning to return.

FOREIGN MINISTER TRAVELS TO ECUADOREAN INAUGURATION

PA042350 Paris AFP in Spanish 2141 GMT 4 Aug 79 PA

[Text] San Salvador, 4 Aug (AFP)--Foreign Minister Antonio Rodriguez Porth heads the Salvadoran delegation to the presidential inauguration of Jaime Roldos in Ecuador. It was reported today that Rodriguez has already gone to Ecuador. Reports say it is possible that during his stay in Ecuador Rodriguez Porth will make his first personal contact with new Nicaraguan Foreign Minister Miguel d'Escoto.

El Salvador has already recognized the Nicaraguan Government but has had problems in evacuating some 200 persons who have taken asylum in the embassy. About 400 have already been evacuated. An official Nicaraguan delegation is expected to arrive here to negotiate the return of several planes flown here by former officials of the overthrown Somoza regime. Three small planes, a DC-3 and a helicopter are at Salvadoran air force installations.

FPL GUERRILLAS BLOW UP MILITARY POST IN CIUDAD DELGADO

PA041624 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1504 GMT 4 Aug 79 PA

[Text] Ciudad Delgado, El Salvador, 4 Aug (ACAN-EFE)--Early this morning, the clandestine Popular Liberation Forces (FPL) blew up the military post [comandancia] in this city, 3 km north of San Salvador. The building was severely damaged.

The authorities told ACAN-EFE that there were no casualties, but that material damages are considerable and that several buildings in the neighborhood were affected by the explosion. An FPL poster was found near the site of the explosion.

PRIEST MURDERED AT VILLAGE ALTAR; RIGHTWING GROUP SUSPECTED

PA050337 Paris AFP in Spanish 0230 GMT 5 Aug 79 PA

[Text] San Salvador, 4 Aug (AFP)--Three unidentified persons today machinegunned 49-year-old Catholic priest Alirio Napoleon in San Esteban Catarina, 50 km east of here. The priest was killed in front of his church's main altar as he was celebrating mass. The assassins, who presumably belong to an illegal rightist organization, also cut the town's electricity. Although no extremist group has claimed credit for the assassination, it is believed that the three killers are members of the White Warriors Union, a rightwing organization that has committed similar crimes in the past. The Catholic Church reacted immediately, condemning the assassination and demanding that the government act quickly. Three priests have been killed in similar circumstances since May.

GUATEMALA

GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN DENIES SOMOZA IN COUNTRY

PA051926 Paris AFP in Spanish 1845 GMT 5 Aug 79 PA

[Text] Guatemala City, 5 Aug (AFP)--An official spokesman told AFP here today that former Nicaraguan President Anastasio Somoza is not in Guatemala. Denying reports circulated abroad, particularly in Washington, the government spokesman said that "there have been attempts to involve Guatemala in the Nicaraguan crisis ever since it began, despite the government's reiterated assertions that it pursues a policy of nonintervention in the internal affairs of other nations."

FURTHER REPORTAGE ON KIDNAPING OF DEPUTY FOREIGN MINISTER

Alonzo Lima's Resignation

PA040232 Paris AFP in Spanish 0122 GMT 4 Aug 79 PA

[Text] Guatemala City, 3 Aug (AFP)--The extreme left guerrilla group known as the Rebel Armed Forces [FAR], which is holding Deputy Foreign Minister Alfonso Alonzo Lima, this afternoon delivered to the AFP office here a copy of the letter sent by the official to the president of the republic, submitting his resignation. In the letter, Alonzo Lima says he is resigning as deputy foreign minister without pressure of any kind. He says he is resigning because of the inhumane attitude assumed by the government in refusing to deal with the FAR, and because of the authorities' repressive policy. In view of the government's refusal to stop searching vehicles and release two guerrillas, the FAR offered to Alonzo Lima's family to release him in exchange for (?the family's distributing) a FAR communique to all the country's communications media. Since yesterday, the communique has been published by various media. Therefore, it is believed the deputy minister's release is imminent.

Minister's Release

PA041239 Paris AFP in Spanish 0604 GMT 4 Aug 79 PA

[Text] Guatemala City, 3 Aug (AFP)--Deputy Foreign Minister Alfonso Alonzo Lima, 64 years of age, kidnaped 2 weeks ago by members of the Rebel Armed Forces [FAR] was released today. According to FAR guerrillas, Alonzo was kidnaped to obtain the freedom of two FAR members and a peasant arrested a month ago by security forces.

However, the Guatemalan Government refused to negotiate with FAR. In view of the many requests made by various groups of politicians and critizens on behalf of Deputy Foreign Minister Alonzo, FAR then demanded the publication of a long manifesto by all news media. After the government complied with the request Alonzo was released. On Friday afternoon, FAR sent all newspapers a copy of a letter in Alonso's handwriting addressed to President Fernando Lucas Garcia. In his letter, the deputy foreign minister submitted his resignation and, among other things, blamed the government for prolonging his captivity.

Resignation Retraction

PA052137 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2103 GMT 5 Aug 79 PA

[Excerpts] Guatemala City, 5 Aug (ACAN-EFE)--Released Guatemalan Deputy Foreign Minister Alfonso Alonzo Lima said today that he was pressured by the clandestine Rebel Armed Forces (FAR) into resigning but that he plans to continue in his post. "I will assume my duties at the National Palace tomorrow morning," Alonzo said. He was released by FAR on Friday night. FAR had kidnaped him on 18 July. "I was pressured into writing the resignation letter," the official said, reiterating that he plans to continue serving as deputy foreign minister.

HONDURAS

NICARAGUAN DELEGATION REQUESTS RETURN OF AIR FORCE PLANES

PA041739 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1633 GMT 4 Aug 79 PA

[Text] Tegucigalpa, 4 Aug (ACAN-EFE)--A delegation of the new Nicaraguan Government arrived unexpectedly yesterday in Tegucigalpa to ask Honduran authorities to return 21 planes. The planes belonged to ousted Gen Anastasio Somoza's air force, and more than 40 deserting air force officers and thier families used them to fly to Honduras on 18 July. The Sandinist delegation includes Attorney General Ernesto Castillo, Deputy Foreign Minister Alvaro Ramirez, Ambassador to Panama Casimiro Sotelo and Commander Mario Castillo Martinez.

The group was received by Honduran Deputy Foreign Minister Carlos Lopez Contraras, who announced that his country is well-disposed to returning those planes to the new Nicaraguan authorities.

The Nicaraguan delegation made arrangements for an audience next week with the members of Honduras' military government junta, who were unable to receive them either yesterday or today because they have been attending a number of high-level military meetings.

According to the Honduran deputy foreign minister, his talks with the Nicaraguan officials dealt with the mutual respect that should exist among nations, the principle of self-determination and the prompt appointment of a Nicaraguan ambassador to Tegucigalpa. He added that the members of the visiting delegation told him they do not expect a counterrevolutionary invasion from Honduran territory.

Attorney General Castillo said he does not know anything about the situation of the former Somozist guardsmen who sought refuge in Honduras, but indicated that he has been informed of and is happy about the thousands of refugees who have returned to their homes from Honduras.

Since there are plans to totally rebuild the air force, the Sandinist government would reportedly use the planes recovered here to carry out civil aid activities and fumigate crops.

BRIEFS

STALK BORER CONTROL--Tegucigalpa, 2 Aug (ACAN-EFE)--The Honduran Natural Resources Ministry reported here today that the campaign against the coffee stalk borer has been judged a success. Although some 2,600 manzanas of coffee in the northern part of the country have been affected by the disease, a four-phase program has been established to eradicate it and efforts are being made to prevent the disease from spreading to coffee plantations in western Honduras, which provide 26 percent of the coffee harvest. In addition, strict controls have been established along the Guatemalan border. [Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1449 GMT 2 Aug 79 PA]

NICARAGUA

NATIONAL PALACE REPORTED UNDER ATTACK; BORGE, CERO LEAD DEFENSE

PA032236 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 2210 GMT 3 Aug 79 PA

[Justo Pastor Martinez report from Nicaragua--live]

[Text] This is an exclusive report: I have just returned from the Interior Ministry, where Minister Tomas Borge Martinez and Vice Minister Eden Pastora--Commander Cero--have left with a group to repel an attack that is taking place against the National Palace. This is the first demonstration of military strength against the new government to take place in this capital. At 1610, at this moment, former Somozists are attacking the National Palace. The interior minister and the vice minister are at this moment repelling this attack. This is the first armed demonstration in Nicaragua since the establishment of the Nicaraguan Government Junta.

SANDINIST COMMANDERS WARN OF COUNTERREVOLUTION THREAT

PA040043 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 2254 GMT 3 Aug 79 PA

[By Agustin Fuentes]

[Text] Managua, 3 Aug (LATIN)--Three members of the Sandinist National Liberation Front (FSLN) directorate said here today that the Nicaraguan revolutionary process is facing the imminent threat of counterrevolution. The warning was issued by Sandinist Commanders Carlos Nunez, Victor Manuel Tirado Lopez and Daniel Ortega Saavedra, who spoke at the end of a popular march in support of the FSLN. Nunez indicated that members of the Sandinist peoples militias will reinforce the new Sandinist peoples army, which replaces the National Guard dissolved after the fall of Gen Anastasio Somoza Debayle's regime. Tirado Lopez, a Mexican citizen, said the slogan "Death to Somozism" has now been changed to "Death to the Somozist Counterrevolution." Tirado Lopez also warned that the revolution was not on 19 June, the day the National Guard abandoned its positions in Managua; that day only marked the beginning of reconstruction, which is only a phase of the revolution.

In his speech, Ortega Saavedra stressed that the unity of the FSLN is a fact. "Those who in the war were members of the insurrectional, proletarian or prolonged peoples war factions," he said in referring to the three factions of the movement which overthrew the Somozist regime. [sentence as received] "We all work for reconstruction and the revolution. The factions that divided us have passed into history," he added. Ortega Saavedra also indicated that high-ranking officials of the Government of National Reconstruction are not receiving salaries. He added that government technical officials are getting paid salaries of no more than 5,000 cordobas (about $500) per month. He said this is due to the fact that the country was looted and they cannot be paid full wages for some time.

ORTEGA, OTHERS CONDEMN 'SOMOZIST TERRORISM' AT MANAGUA RALLY

PA040330 Paris AFP in Spanish 2340 GMT 3 Aug 79 PA

[Text] Managua, 3 Aug (AFP)--About 20,000 Sandinist soldiers, militiamen and civilians gathered in east Managua this afternoon to condemn Somozist terrorism. The object of the rally was to condemn the recent activity of snipers from the dissolved National Guard who attacked Sandinist patrols in various parts of Managua this week. It has been reported unofficially that several Sandinist guards have been found with their throats cut, supposedly by ex-soldiers from the former infantry school who had been trained in jungle warfare.

The main speaker at the rally was Commander Daniel Ortega, member of the Sandinist National Liberation Front Joint National Directorate and of the junta of the Government of National Reconstruction. Ortega asked the people to remove all posters identifying the "proletarian," "prolonged people's war" and "tertiary" factions, indicating that such names no longer exist within the Sandinist entity.

Other speakers praised the heroism of the people of the east Managua neighborhoods during the most bitter days of the war when they had to endure attacks by the Somozist planes, tanks and soldiers. The speakers also stressed the need for direct unity between the army and the people to guarantee the defeat of the counterrevolution and win the most important victory--the country's reconstruction.

Commander Ortega said the revolution will expropriate 51 percent of Nicaragua's agricultural land since that is the percentage that was in the hands of Somoza and the Somozists. The first of those lands has already begun to be distributed to peasant communities in the area of Managua and western Nicaragua.

Claim: End of Internal Division

PA041436 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 1140 GMT 4 Aug 79 PA

[By Agustin Puentes]

[Text] Managua, 4 Aug (LATIN)--The Sandinist National Liberation Front (FSLN), claimed yesterday that it has eliminated its internal division. The claim was made following the announcement of the existence of an imminent counterrevolutionary threat. Commander Daniel Ortega Saavedra, a member of the junta of the Government of National Reconstruction, said that the counterrevolution will not prevail against a totally united Sandinist front. "The three factions into which the FSLN had been divided have been erased by the war, the victory over Somozism and the need to defend the revolution," Ortega said. Ortega, one of the leaders of the insurrectional faction of the FSLN, whose struggle led to the fall of President Anastasio Somoza last month, added that now there are neither proletarian, insurrectional, nor prolonged people's war factions in Nicaragua, but only Sandinists. Bayardo Arce, who belonged to the prolonged people's war faction, confirmed to LATIN last night that the factions within the FSLN have really disappeared. We realized that no faction could have achieved victory on its own and that unity is needed to preserve the revolutionary process, Arce added.

Meanwhile, hundreds of soldiers of the new Sandinist army were deployed last night in the areas surrounding the National Palace and the cathedral, in the northern sector of the capital, in an intensive hunt for snipers. At nightfall, heavy shooting was heard in the area, but the results of the confrontation were still unknown early this morning.

This is the second time this week that the Sandinist soldiers have confronted snipers located in the cathedral. On the first occasion, the Sandinists surrounded the area, then entered and searched the cathedral without capturing any snipers, which led some guerrilla leaders to conclude that the snipers probably knew the location of tunnels in the area.

Meanwhile, the junta of the Government of National Reconstruction has continued to receive visiting delegations offering financial support for the reconstruction of the country, which was ravaged by the war that led to Somoza's defeat. In this regard, the board of directors of the Central American Bank of Economic Integration (BCIE) visited the junta yesterday afternoon. In addition, the junta received Mexican Foreign Secretary Jorge Castaneda. A mission of the Socialist International, headed by former Portuguese Prime Minister Mario Soares, is expected to arrive tomorrow.

BORGE WARNS OF INVASION THREAT BY FORMER GUARDSMEN

PA042244 Paris AFP in Spanish 2047 GMT 4 Aug 79 PA

[Text] Managua, 4 Aug (AFP)--A force of 700 former members of the disbanded Nicaraguan National Guard is maneuvering [maniobra] on the Honduran border with the intention of entering Nicaraguan territory, it was reported here today. The report was issued by Interior Minister Tomas Borge through spokesmen for the junta of the Government of National Reconstruction. Borge mentioned the possibility that former dictator Anastasio Somoza has left behind secret units to harass the Sandinist guerrillas.

Sandinist guerrillas went into action Friday afternoon for the second time in 3 days against snipers in the Plaza de la Revolucion. The bodies of three young guerrillas were found handcuffed and burned today at kilometer 9 of the Southern Highway. Sandinist fighters indicated that since the triumph of the revolution at least 50 guerrillas have been killed by Somozist guardsmen on the loose. It is suspected that there are tunnels connecting some refugee centers in Managua with nests of Somozist guardsmen. Sandinist patrols have been firing throughout the night in all parts of the city in view of the threat of attacks. Minister Borge has decreed the death penalty for any sniper who is caught. The sniper must be shot immediately where he is captured.

Sources in the new Nicaraguan Government said reports have been received indicating that 12 fishing boats anchored in the Honduran port of Trujillo on the Atlantic have disappeared. The sources said there is a fear that the boats might have been used to attempt an invasion by former national guardsmen on Nicaragua's Atlantic coast.

Nicaraguan Deputy Foreign Minister Alvaro Ramirez and Attorney General Ernesto Castillo traveled to Tegucigalpa today to demand the return of 20 planes flown into Honduras by national guardsmen after the revolution's triumph. Official sources said that the two officials will demand that the Honduran Government prevent the movement of former Somozist soldiers in the border area in order to prevent an invasion.

SANDINIST GOVERNMENT CLOSES BORDER WITH HONDURAS

PA031724 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1651 GMT 3 Aug 79 PA

[Text] Tegucigalpa, 3 Aug (ACAN-EFE)--The Nicaraguan Government in a surprise move today decided to close the border with Honduras on Las Manos highway, according to Col Leonel Gutierrez Minera, immigration police director of the military government. Gutierrez Minera said that we did not know the reason for Nicaragua's decision, which automatically cut commercial and private traffic between the two countries on this highway.

The immigration director affirmed that Sandinist soldiers are only allowing the passage of persons identified as friends of the junta of the new government of National Reconstruction. Other local official sources said that it is impossible to determine an eventual reopening of the border, which is under strict control on the Nicaraguan side by a strong Sandinist guard. There was speculation here that the Nicaraguan revolutionary government's measure could be the result of frequent threats by remnants of former Nicaraguan National Guard soldiers who are harassing towns near Las Manos.

RETURN OF AIR FORCE PLANES DISCUSSED WITH HONDURAS

PA032023 Paris AFP in Spanish 1939 GMT 3 Aug 79 PA

[Text] Managua, 3 Aug (AFP)--According to official sources here, Nicaraguan Attorney General Ernesto Castillo left this morning for Honduras. His talks with Tegucigalpa leaders will center on the return of several Somozist air force planes to Nicaragua. Some 21 air force planes were flown to Honduras in the last days of fighting between the National Guard and the Sandinist guerrillas. According to members of the junta of the Government of National Reconstruction, negotiations in connection with the return of those planes are going well.

LAES GRANTS $2.5 BILLION FOR RECONSTRUCTION

PA050438 Paris AFP in English 0411 GMT 5 Aug 79 PA

[Text] Managua, Aug 4 (AFP)--Nicaragua has obtained a 2,500 million dollar loan to ease its economic crisis and refinance its external debt, Information Secretary Manuel Espinosa said here today. The five-year loan will be put up by the Latin American Economic System (LAES), he said.

Meanwhile, Central Bank reports showed that Nicaraguan inflation totalled 28 percent for the first three months of this year, but that ousted dictator Anastasio Somoza ordered that more optimistic figures be published. The war-ravaged Central American country's economy is starting to begin functioning again. Trade with neighboring countries is resuming, and about 30 percent of business and industry are back in operation in the capital. The government has ordered employers to pay two months' salary to all employees earning less than 500 dollars permonth for each month that the business may have been shut down due to the civil war.

JUNTA MEMBER DISCUSSES FOREIGN AID, LAES MEETING

PA051658 Paris AFP in Spanish 1316 GMT 5 Aug 79 PA

[Text] Managua, 5 Aug (AFP)--Alfonso Robelo, a member of the junta of the Government of National Reconstruction, said in a news conference yesterday that international aid to Nicaragua has been less abundant than expected.

Robelo emphasized the serious difficulties faced by the Nicaraguan Government in meeting the people's food and health care needs and said that U. S. aid "is minimal in comparison with that sent after the 1972 earthquake and, in any case, is less than the amount promised."

"It is our impression," Robelo continued, "that the hesitation shown by some in helping our ruined and devastated country is equivalent to a form of pressure against our revolution."

Alfonso Robelo returned to Nicaragua on Friday from Caracas, where he had attended a meeting of the Latin American Economic System (LAES). He said he was very gratified with the results of the meeting.

"We felt," he said, "that all Latin America identified with the Nicaraguan revolution. All the countries supported our requests for aid, with the exception of Paraguay, which was not present at the meeting. In my opinion, the most active countries in this regard were Mexico, Peru and Brazil." Robelo said: Governments such as those of Chile, Argentina and Brazil, which at first were not too much in favor of the revolution, "supported us because their peoples are with us and those governments could not contravene the people's will for fear that the people would turn against them." LAES decided to grant Nicaragua a 10-year loan of 2.5 million. "However," Robelo said, "this economic aid will not be used to exert political pressure." Beginning on 16 August, an action committee in Managua will take charge of administering the funds from the loan. "Our country," Robelo continued, "is in total bankruptcy. It was destroyed and sacked by the former regime." As an example, the Nicaraguan junta member said: "The official figures for gold production given by the former regime were $3.5 million in 1977 and $6.1 million in 1978, while the real production was calculated at $24 million per year. The difference was pocketed by the rulers."

Robelo, the private enterprise representative within the Nicaraguan junta, reiterated that there is total unity within the government. "The will and the mystique of the revolution are shared by all," Robelo said. "This is not a provisional, but a stable government, the product of a struggle and not of a coup d'etat." "Our revolution is socialist, but with order, freedom and respect for the private sector," Robelo concluded.

Meanwhile, Pierre Joxe, vice president of the French socialist deputies, announced yesterday in Managua the beginning of a campaign to pressure the French Government into giving massive, concrete aid to Nicaragua. The extent of the destruction and the scarcity of food and medicine are unimaginable, Pierre Joxe added. "On the international scale, the Nicaraguan problem is minor," the French socialist continued. "It is simply a matter of feeding 1 million people for 6 months, a problem that could be easily solved by the world community if real political determination to solve it existed." Pierre Joxe is scheduled to join the Socialist International delegation, led by Portuguese citizen Mario Soares, which is arriving in Managua today.

REPORTAGE ON TWO VISITING AID DELEGATIONS

Cuban Health Ministry

FL041826 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 4 Aug 79 FL

[Text] Managua--Cuban Public Health Minister Jose A. Gutierrez Muniz is in this capital to coordinate with the Nicaraguan officials Cuban solidarity aid in medical supplies. A brigade of Cuban doctors, nurses and technicians has been working in Nicaragua since last week. Cuba has offered as many doctors and specialists as that country needs, in accordance with the plans of the National Reconstruction Government of that country. Minister Gutierrez Muniz yesterday travelled accompanied by Adolfo Valdivia, secretary general of the Cuban health workers national trade union.

FRG Foreign Ministry

PA041427 Paris AFP in Spanish 0433 GMT 4 Aug 79 PA

[Text] Managua, 3 Aug (AFP)--An FRG delegation headed by Goetz Martius, director of the FRG Foreign Ministry's Latin American Department, arrived in Managua today by plane. The plane also brought in medicine, hospital equipment and baby food. The delegation will stay for several days in order to visit several of the cities affected by the civil war and to meet with a number of government leaders.

PRENSA LATINA COMMENTARY SEES GROWING PRESTIGE OF NONALINED

FL041614 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1510 GMT 4 Aug 79 FL

[PRENSA LATINA'S Javier Rodriguez commentary]

[Text] The nations of the world which are interested in the nonalined countries movement have a broad range of possibilities by which to participate in the movement. A demonstration of the broad and democratic nature of the movement is seen precisely in the various methods existing by which one can occupy a seat at the meetings and have access to discussions on the most important topics in international events. The Javier Rodriguez commentary of PRENSA LATINA adds that an interested party who has expressly requested it, can always be granted by the organization the character of a full member or an observer. In this sense an agreement of the movement will also allow representatives of the country in question to attend as a guest to the meetings which are held periodically.

The nonalined countries movement Coordinating Bureau is made up of representatives of 25 countries and its meetings are traditionally held at the foreign minister level. Logically the full members have the opportunity to present propositions on all topics, participate in the various working commissions and represent the movement when they are designated for this task. The observers can, in addition to participating in the nonalined meetings, speak at the plenum and attend the debates on topics discussed although they do not have the right to vote. A group of countries generally attend as guests to the chiefs of state and government meetings and to those held by the Coordinating Bureau. In this way they are allowed to learn about the operations of the movement.

The number of countries and organizations attending as full members and observers increase with each chiefs of state and government meeting of the nonalined countries movement. The first nonalined summit was attended by 25 full members and 3 Latin American countries--Bolivia. Brazil and Ecuador--were attending as observers. The last chiefs of state and government meeting held in Sri Lanka in 1976 was attended by 86 full members, 21 observers and 7 guests. The constant increase in participants in one or another status in the activities of the nonalined countries movement conforms to the growing prestige of that organization and the broadness which characterizes it.

ESQUIVEL YEDRA MEETS WITH IRAN'S YAZDI

FL032131 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 2108 GMT 3 Aug 79 FL

[Text] Cuban Chemical Industry Minister Antonio Esquivel Yedra and the delegation he heads today met in Iran with Iranian Foreign Minister Ebrahim Yazdi. According to a report from the Iranian News Agency, PARS, the Cuban delegation which today arrived in the Iranian capital is visiting that country to invite the government to participate in the sixth conference of nonalined countries chiefs of state and government which will be held in Havana in September 1979. Iran expressed its desire to join the nonalined countries movement at the last ministerial meeting which was held in Colombo, the capital of Sri Lanka.

INDIAN DELEGATION TO VISIT CUBA FOR SUMMIT PREPARATIONS

FL032341 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 2300 GMT 3 Aug 79 FL

[Text] A delegation from the Indian External Affairs Ministry today left for Havana to continue consultations with Cuban officials prior to the sixth nonalined movement summit. The delegation is headed by Mr Mishra, secretary at the External Affairs Ministry, who will exchange viewpoints with Cuban officials on the draft declaration for the summit conference to be presented in Cuba.

CULTURE MINISTER HART DAVALOS ARRIVES IN MADAGASCAR

FL031426 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1400 GMT 3 Aug 79 FL

[Text] Antananarivo--Armando Hart Davalos, member of the Cuban Council of State and minister of culture, today arrived in this capital at the head of a delegation. The purpose of the visit is to deliver to Madagascar's President Didier Ratsiraka a message from Cuban Councils of State and Ministers President Fidel Castro and to hold talks on various matters of interest concerning the nonalined countries sixth summit conference--due to be held in Havana from 3 to 7 September--and bilateral relations. The Cuban official and his delegation were received at Ivato Airport by Minister of Culture Gisele Rabesahala, Foreign Relations Vice Minister (Yeanernes Desaza), other Malagasy officials and Cuban Ambassador to Madagascar Laureano Cardoso.

Meets With President Ratsiraka

FL041747 Havana Domestic Television Service in Spanish 1700 GMT 4 Aug 79 FL

[Text] Didier Ratsiraka, president of the Democratic Republic of Madagascar, has called on the countries of the nonalined movement to achieve a successful sixth summit which will be held in September 1979 in Havana. After calling for strengthening the cohesion within the ranks of the movement, the Malagasy leader said that one of the main tasks of the conference was the approval of joint and concrete initiatives to economically liberated developing countries. President Ratsiraka made these statements during a meeting with the Cuban delegation headed by Armando Hart, member of the Council of State and minister of culture.

ENVOY TO LEBANON MEETS WITH BUTRUS

FL032027 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 2004 GMT 3 Aug 79 FL

[Text] Fu'ad Butrus, Lebanese deputy prime minister and foreign minister, and Alberto Velazco San Jose, Cuban ambassador, met today in Beirut to discuss Lebanon's participation in the upcoming nonalined movement summit conference. Butrus told the Cuban diplomat that his country will be represented by a top level [delegation] at the sixth summit which will be held in Havana in September. He also referred to the importance of this meeting and wished the meeting success.

PORTUGUESE DELEGATION ENDS VISIT, RETURNS HOME

FL041753 Havana Domestic Television Service in Spanish 1700 GMT 4 Aug 79 FL

[Text] Maj Vasco Correia Lourenco, member of the Portuguese Council of Revolution, today returned to Lisbon following a visit to Cuba at the invitation of the Cuban Institute of Friendship With Peoples. The Portuguese leader participated in the ceremonies commemorating the 26th anniversary of the assault on the Moncada Barracks. Upon his arrival in Lisbon he said that during the meetings with the Cuban officials, the Cuban officials expressed their interest in Portuguese participation in the sixth nonalined countries movement summit which will be held in September 1979.

PUERTO RICANS TO VOTE ON THEIR POLITICAL STATUS

FL040049 Havana Domestic Television Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 4 Aug 79 FL

[Text] The North American Congress has approved the eventual plebiscite in Puerto Rico which allegedly will define the political destiny of that Caribbean island. The legislative decision allows the present colonial government, which is a supporter of Puerto Rican annexation to the United States, to carry out the announced referendum in 1981 if it wins the election next year, 1980.

That vote would lead to an annexation process because the plebiscite, according to experts, would take place under the present U.S. military and political domination without guarantees for the other opposition forces, that is, the independence autonomy sectors.

RODRIGUEZ LLOMPART COMMENTS ON LAES MEETING

FL032356 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 2300 GMT 3 Aug 79 FL

[Text] Hector Rodriguez Llompart, Cuban minister of economic cooperation, has said that the results of the fifth meeting of the Latin American Economic System Council--LAES--is a symbol reinforcing the spirit of solidarity. In statements to PRENSA LATINA in Caracas, the capital of Venezuela, Rodriguez Llompart said that the conclusions of the Council also reflect the independence of viewpoints in an atmosphere that is purely Latin American, which is being seen with greater precision over recent times.

The Cuban representative also referred to the LAES agreement to set up an action committee to support the reconstruction of devastated Nicaragua and to provide urgent aid to that Central American nation. In another part of his interview he said that the package of agreements and resolutions reached at the fifth LAES Council signifies the opening of a new stage in which it will be increasingly more difficult for the developed capitalist countries, especially the United States, to carry out with impunity economic aggressions against and discriminatory treatment of the countries of the hemisphere.

TRADE GAP BETWEEN DEVELOPED AND DEVELOPING COUNTRIES NOTED

FL041306 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1045 GMT 4 Aug 79 FL

[Revolutionary Armed Forces and Interior Ministry combatants political information program commentary]

[Text] The Latin American situation in relation to the United States, Western Europe and Japan is seen much more dramatically if we keep in mind the gap separating the industrialized capitalist countries from those which make up the so-called Third World. The most serious thing is that the gap between the rich and poor countries continually increases. The reason for this is the constant deterioration of the buying power of raw materials and food which are exported by the underdeveloped countries in relation to the always increasing prices of manufactured goods in the industrialized capitalist countries.

Data from the FAO shows that the value of agricultural exports increased by 33 billion dollars between 1970 and 1977. Nevertheless the real growth in buying power from these exports was only 5 billion dollars. The difference was absorbed by the voracious increase in price of the industrialized products. The low export capacity of the underdeveloped countries together with the high level of imports results in growing trade balance deficits. In 1977 the current accounts deficits of those countries as a group was 22 billion dollars. In 1978 it rose to 35 billion, and it is estimated that this year it will reach 38 billion dollars.

As a result the external debt of the Third World continually increases, information from the UNCTAD reports that by the end of 1977 the external debt had reached the fabulous sum of 250 billion dollars. While the underdeveloped countries rapidly approach a position of total international insolvency the developed capitalist countries rapidly increase their monetary reserves. This situation can only be changed through a radical alteration in the rules of the game of international trade. There is a need for a system which guarantees the developing countries a just price and a stable market for their products.

COOPERATION WITH SOUTH AFRICA SCORED

FL041534 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1427 GMT 4 Aug 79 FL

[Text] Cuba once again has warned world public opinion about the Western powers being responsible for militarily strengthening South Africa. Representative Alfredo Garcia Almeida said at the UN decolonization committee that Western supplies of weapons and technology to South Africa increase its military activities in Zimbabwe and Namibia to prevent the independence of those two territories. The Cuban representative condemned the greed of transitional enterprises which in southern Africa places international peace and security in danger. The Cuban delegate stated that the racist regimes guarantee political, military and economic hegemony of imperialism in the area and [words indistinct] financially, technologically, materially and politically reinforced for their consequent increase in aggressive capacity.

JAMAICAN ANNIVERSARY COMMEMORATED AT THE ICAP

FL041231 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1000 GMT 4 Aug 79 FL

[Text] The 17th anniversary of Jamaican independence was commemorated on Friday 3 August at a ceremony held at the Cuban Institute of Friendship with Peoples--ICAP--headquarters in this capital. Luis Morejon, ICAP director of the Latin American and Caribbean Department, recalled the historical nature of friendship between Cuba and Jamaica, especially the friendship and welcome received by Jose Marti and Maximo Gomez when they had to leave Cuba. For his part Winston Davis, ambassador of that fraternal country to Cuba, expressed his thanks for holding the ceremony commemorating this date of so much importance for Jamaica, and gave a summary of the struggles waged by his people.

NAVY ANNIVERSARY COMMEMORATED IN CIENFUEGOS

FL032332 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 2300 GMT 3 Aug 79 FL

[Text] The main national ceremony commemorating the 16th anniversary of the stablishment of the Revolutionary Navy was held today in the Tomas Terry Theater in the City of Cienfuegos. The ceremony was presided over by Vice Admiral Aldo Santamaria Cuadrado, vice minister-chief of the Revolutionary Navy, Col Pedro Rodriguez Peralta, chief of the Border Guard troops, and Antonio Enrique Lusson, minister of transportation, all members of the PCC Central Committee. A greetings message sent by the commander in chief of the USSR Navy was read at the ceremony.

BRIEFS

POTATO HARVEST RESULTS--A total of 4,370,100 quintals of potatoes were harvested in the country during the last harvest [1978-79]. The information was reported at the national meeting of potato producers, and noted that the figure reached indicates that 38,700 more quintals were harvested in the country as compared with the 1977-78 harvest. Ciego de Avila Province which was the site of the meeting was one of the most outstanding provinces in the country by reaching 6,000 quintals of potatoes per Caballeria. [Text] [Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 2300 GMT Aug 79 FL]

GDR EXPERTS TO TRAIN PLANNING SECRETARIAT STAFF

FL031500 Georgetown GUYANA CHRONICLE in English 27 Jul 79 p 1 FL

[Excerpt] Chairman of Guymine Haslyn Parris has successfully negotiated an agreement between the Guyana Government and the German Democratic Republic (GDR) for two experts from the State Planning Secretariat there to train staff and develop systems in the Guyana State Planning Commission (SPC). The two experts will spend an initial period of two years Economic Development Minister Desmond Hoyte, under whose portfolio the SPC falls, disclosed in Parliament yesterday.

Minister Hoyte made the disclosure after speaker Sase Narain intervened in a clash between the minister and People's Progressive Party Parliamentarian Narbada Persaud. Comrade Persaud criticised expenses for the trip to the GDR by a three-man team while speaking during debate on the IMF agreement.

Comrade Hoyte rose to a point of order and the speaker rebuked Comrade Persaud for naming public officers who could not defend themselves in the house. Minister Hoyte said Comrade Parris and his team had gone to the GDR to purchase equipment and arrange for the training of Guyanese, and the agreement for the planning experts to come was a mission undertaken on behalf of the Ministry of Economic Development.

NEW PARTY TO WORK FOR REMOVAL OF PRESENT GOVERNMENT

FL031505 Georgetown GUYANA CHRONICLE in English 28 Jul 79 p 1 FL

[Text] The Working People's Alliance (WPA)--after nearly five years of masquerading as a non-political grouping--yesterday formally declared itself a political party and published a list of its "Provisional Executive" of 14 members, with no fixed leader. The long awaited announcement, made to newsmen at the party's Georgetown headquarters, Holmes and Queen Streets, followed earlier indications that the WPA, a collection of a number of opposition groups, was going to formally and officially enter the political arena in Guyana.

Spokesmen at yesterday's news conference said the provisional executive comprises: Andaiye, Moses Bhagwan, Bonita Harris, Eusi Kwayana, Diana Matthews, Maurice Odle, Wendell Persaud, Bissoon Rajkumar, Joshua Ramsammy, Walter Rodney, Rupert Roopnarine, Sase Omo, Tacuma Ogunseye and Clive Thomas. Among these is at least one member who has publicly described the recent burning down of the Ministry of National Development building as "a good job." Spokesmen for the party offered the explanation that decisions "are currently made collectively under a rotating chairmanship with Eusi Kwayan being yesterday's chairman.

For nearly five years, they further explained, the WPA had been an association of "independent political groupings which sought to analyse and influence the directions of Guyanese politics." Their basic policy document is entitled "For a Revolutionary Socialist Guyana: Principles and Programme of the Working People's Alliance," a programme which "has been available for some months." Among the new party's immediate objectives, they said, is "to work for the removal of the present PNC [People's National Congress] regime...The WPA makes itself available to serve as part of a representative government of national unit."

INTER-AMERICAN AFFAIRS

SAO PAULO PAPER REPORTS ACCORD ON CORPUS DAM HEIGHT

PY052023 Paris AFP in Spanish 1821 GMT 5 Aug 79 PY

[Text] Sao Paulo, 5 Aug (AFP) --The newspaper FOLHA DE SAO PAULO asserted here today that Brazil and Argentina have reached an agreement that the height of the Corpus Dam be raised to 105 meters. The newspaper report, which has not been officially confirmed or denied by the appropriate organizations, added that the decision will be officially announced after Argentina and Paraguay have finished their negotiations regarding the building of the Yacyreta hydroelectric project. According to FOLHA DE SAO PAULO, the negotiation over the coordination of the Itaipu Dam, under joint construction by Brazil and Paraguay, and the Corpus Dam, an Argentine-Paraguayan project in the Parana River, will be resumed immediately after those referring to the Yacyreta powerplant.

The Brazilian paper said that the agreement to end the triparite disagreements over the coordination of the dams in upper Parana River "was reached already at the end of 1978," when the foreign ministers of the three countries met at Punta del Este. The paper also said that on that occasion "the parties accepted a height of 105 meters for Corpus--5 meters more than the height accepted earlier by Brazil--and the installation of two reserve turbines at Itaipu." FOLHA DE SAO PAULO stressed the importance of this decision to eliminate the tensions in "the Brazil-Argentina axis and to finally guarantee the operation of Itaipu with the power which was planned for it." It stated, however, that the agreement will not facilitate the execution of the Corpus project and asserted that its construction "will depend on negotiations with the Paraguayans who will demand from the Argentines larger compensations than those they are demanding in order to build Yacyreta."

OLHA DE SAO PAULO further said that "in their haste to sign the agreement of their intention to build Yacyreta in 1973, to counteract the Itaipu agreement signed by Brazil and Paraguay 5 months before, Argentines and Paraguayans chose an inadequate site for building their dam." The paper stated that several months later experts discovered another site below the former, which would give the powerplant more power, "but, since a treaty of this nature could hardly be modified, this serious error was kept an absolute secret." The negotiations to coordinate the Itaipu and Corpus dams were interrupted in October 1978, when Brazil and Paraguay decided to increase the number of turbines to be installed at Itaipu from 18 to 20. At that time the Argentines believed that the decision had changed the terms of the equation agreed upon in Rio de Janeiro in September the same year during a meeting of delegates from the three countries, when a draft for a triparitite agreement was drawn up.

PERU

SUSPENSION OF PERSONAL GUARANTEES EXTENDED FOR 30 MORE DAYS

PA031900 Paris AFP in Spanish 1727 GMT 3 Aug 79 PA

[Text] Lima, 3 Aug (AFP)--The Peruvian Government today extended for another 30 days the suspension of constitutional guarantees pertaining to personal freedom. This enables the authorities to arrest persons without a warrant and without turning them over to court authorities within 24 hours of thier arrest. The executive branch had suspended constitutional guarentees early in January shortly after a general 3-day strike broke out. Guarantees were reestablished 2 months later, but the guarentee on personal freedom, which has been suspended ever since then, continued to be suspended.